



Call of Faith

March, 2014 Edition

Faith United Methodist Church
2708 33 Avenue N.E.
St. Anthony Village, MN 55418

Telephone: 612-781-3167

Web: www.faithumchurch.com

Faith is Handicap Accessible

Email: Faith@faithumchurch.com

Church News

Rainbow Sunday

A celebration of our 2nd year as a Reconciling Congregation

Sunday March 16th

Our worship service at 10:30, will celebrate our Second Anniversary and include stories from several people in our congregation regarding the importance of Faith becoming a reconciling congregation.

Following the service you will be served a scrumptious salad and baked potato bar lunch in Fellowship Hall.

While dessert is served, we are honored to have a concert presented by singer/ songwriter Barb Ryman.

A natural storyteller with a true compassion for the lost and forgotten voices of our culture, Barb Ryman expects music to be more than entertaining. With a crystalline voice and skillfully played guitar, Barb delivers a rich mosaic of contemporary folk. With six CDs, her latest, CATCH THE SUNSET is a top-played album on the Folk-DJ chart. An award-winning songwriter, Barb has toured coast-to-coast and is known for her captivating charm and disarming honesty on stage, as well as her deep dedication to writing music that is healing and restoring to the human spirit.



Worship Schedule

Sundays:	9:00 AM	Adult Christian Education
	10:00 AM	Fellowship Time
	10:30 AM	Worship Service
	10:30 AM	Christian Education for Children and Youth

If you need nursery care for your children during Adult Christian Education on Sunday morning please contact the church office at 612-781-3167 by Wednesday.

Church Contacts

Pastor	Rev. Leigh Brown	Lbrown@faithumchurch.com
Director of Music	Jo Halvorsen	Joh@faithumchurch.com
Director of Faith Formation	Rev. Susan Mullin	Smullin@faithumchurch.com (Hours: Tues. Wed. Thu. 10:00 - 4:00)
Finance & Membership Administrator	Janet Olson	Jolson@faithumchurch.com (Hours: Tues. & Wed. 8:30 - 3:30, Fri. 8:30-2:30)
Communication & Facility Administrator	Molly Cabrera	Mcabrera@faithumchurch.com (Hours: Mon. Wed. Thu. 9:00—3:00)
Organist	Marie Kuglin	
Treasurer	Rod Long	

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Over the Coffee *by Rev. Leigh Brown*



I have just returned from a vacation in New Orleans – the first vacation I have had in more than two years that did not involve going to Iowa for hospital visits, funerals or family business. I have wanted to see New Orleans for many years, and while I traveled to most of the major cities in the U.S. in my former career, somehow I never made it there. There is something mysterious and ethereal about New Orleans, or so it seemed to me in the legends of the city. The city did not disappoint! New Orleans is a city of enigma and deep contradiction – each facet giving the other meaning.

- It is a city – quite old by North American standards – whose rich history is woven into the architecture and customs much more palpably than in most places. And it is a city where life is lived fleetingly – people enjoying music, dancing, eating and drinking without trusting in any guarantee of tomorrow.
- It is a city that matches the opulence of Fat Tuesday (Mardi Gras) with the sacred poverty of Lent.
- It is a city entrenched in the spiritual realm through story and ritual, and in the bodily realm through food, drink and the senses. Life is truly *experienced* in this city – even the art comes directly out of the body through dance and song. One well-known painter in the French Quarter uses the human body as his canvas.
- It is a city where the past is still the present and legend and memory live on. The cycle of the Christian calendar is what measures the days in New Orleans – from Christmas to Twelfth Night to Carnival Season and Mardi Gras to Lent to Easter. And then to hurricane season. From birth – to life at its fullest – to death – to rebirth – to the reality of mortality, all lived through within each year.
- It is a city steeped in Catholicism mixed with voodoo (African religion), hoodoo (local folklore), and some Protestant upper-class thrown in for good measure.
- It is a city where the living are below sea level and the dead are raised above.
- It is a very social city where strangers become friends immediately after greetings are exchanged. The people expect to hear a bit of your life story upon meeting you, even as they offer you theirs. A stark contrast to Minnesota!
- It is a city in the heart of Old Dixie, a large monument to General Lee a reminder of the segregated south. And it is a city mixed together like its signature gumbo – Cajun, Creole (French and Spanish aristocracy), Caribbean, black and white, young and old, rich and poor – all living the same traditions in the same streets, even if they don't attend the same Mardi Gras balls.

In a way New Orleans is itself the story of Easter – not the immortality of dry endless life but that of continual renewal and reincarnation. It is a place that insists you experience *all* of life, each facet giving the other meaning.

Now I personally don't recommend excessive drinking and debauchery (both were present each night on Bourbon Street) *at all*, much less as a way to heighten your experience of the holy season! But you don't need them anyway. Holy Week is in itself a time the Christian world sets aside to observe in ritual the depth of human experience. No part of the annual Christian cycle can be understood without the others – the cycle is the story of our lives lived again and again. It is eternal. And Holy Week is a cycle unto itself within the Christian cycle. We cannot experience rebirth without death. We cannot understand Easter without Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday and Good Friday.

I hope you fully experience your past, present and future by observing the sacred tradition of Holy Week. Holy Week is ancient and transient, spiritual and physical, division and unity, excess and restraint, beginning and ending. And beginning again. It is the story of our Christian life – the story of *your* life. Don't sleep through it. *Live* it!

**Welcome to Molly Cabrera,
our new
Communication & Facility
Administrator**



We are pleased to welcome Molly Cabrera to our Faith staff! Molly brings years of professional office assistant experience with expertise in organizational processes, workflows and hands-on proficiency in Microsoft Office Suite. She also works on short-term projects from home as an online freelancer specializing in providing customer services and sales support to busy entrepreneurs and small business start-ups. For her most recent freelance online project she provided customer service and sales support to a Canadian software developer and entrepreneur who started up his own SAS online company: a condominium management software site.

In her free time, Molly enjoys learning organic gardening and growing her own indoor herb garden. Her favorites are rosemary, thyme and dill. She also speaks Spanish and enjoys traveling to Europe.

Molly started her position on February 20, 2014. She is very excited to be a part of our Faith community and staff, and looks forward to meeting everyone at Faith United Methodist Church.

Please feel free to stop in and say hello!"

Looking ahead to Easter:

We have changed the worship service times on Easter Sunday to 9:00 am and 10:30 am.



Reminder:

New Look for Faith Website is Here

www.faithumchurch.com

Sunday Mornings at Faith

In the Sundays following Epiphany we have considered how the words of Jesus inform our lives today in our series What Did Jesus Really Say? In Lent we will consider the actions of Jesus and how they are relevant today - What Did Jesus Really Do?

In the Easter season our sermon series will be Punctuation! Shining the Light on Life. We will look at the ways our story and our character are defined by life's interruptions - the presence and role of God in these times, and how we survive and integrate these events into ourselves.

See you in church!

**Minnesota FoodShare
during March**



It's that time of year again!

Donations of food, personal hygiene and household cleaning

And monetary donations

given during the month of March help our local food shelves throughout the year.

The more Ralph Reeder and NEED receive from community donations in March, the more they will receive from the Feinstein Foundation.

Please have your donations turned in by Sunday March 30, 2014 so we can get them to the food shelves on time.

NE Community Meal

Outreach team will be preparing and serving the N.E. Community Meal on Saturday,

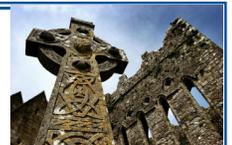
March 15. If you are able to help, sign-up is in the Commons.



Adult Ministry Team Event

Monday, March 17th at 3:00 PM

We will celebrate St. Patrick's Day with a presentation from Rev. Leigh about her trip to Ireland. Come to learn about the landscape, history, and spirituality that Leigh encountered during her sabbatical trip to Ireland.



Christian Education

Children's Sunday School

Sunday mornings, 10:30 am

The elementary school children will be finishing a unit on the Lord's Prayer, then learning about the stories of Ruth and Jonah, and by the end of March we will start a unit on the meaning of Holy Week and Easter. We will explore these stories and lessons through hands-on activities. The children will also be learning the songs that they will sing in worship on Palm Sunday (April 13). All children age 4 through grade 4 are welcome to join us. On the first Sunday of the month (March 2) the children should attend worship with their parents. After the children's time, children will be dismissed to go downstairs with their teachers. All other Sunday mornings, children should come to Room 116 at 10:30 for Sunday school.



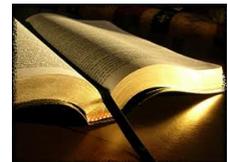
Middle School

Sunday mornings, 10:30 am
Room 117

Youth in grades 5-8 will attend worship on March 2. They will have class at 10:30 on March 9, 16, 23, and 30. Our policy for middle school is to teach class when two or more students are present. If only one student is present, the teacher will invite that student to go upstairs and attend the worship service.

Adult Classes

Sunday mornings, 9:00 am



Adult Bible Study (Ebenezer Room):

The adult Bible study class is beginning a Lenten Bible Study called *God's Gift of Life* by Larry Beman on March 23. (The Bible study group will attend Faith Forum on March 9 & 16). The author is a pastor/educator/storyteller who invites us to create a holy space for Bible study and to open our hearts and minds through self-examination and reflection so that we might grow in our faith. He brings a relaxed and invitational tone to the study of the Scriptures and includes personal stories that help us apply them to our daily lives. You are welcome to join us for the entire study, or simply drop in on any Sunday at 9:00 AM and join in the discussion. Terry Krinke will lead our discussions. If you would like a copy of the book, please call the church office or email Rev. Susan Mullin (smullin@faithumchurch.com).

The **Mary Martha Circle** will be using the same Lenten Bible study. All women are invited to join this women's study group at 9:30 every Wednesday during Lent. They begin with refreshments and fellowship before starting the study. Contact Maureen Krinke, 651-636-4383, if you have any questions.

Faith Forum (Fellowship Hall):

March 2 - Plastics in Our Oceans, Part 1. TED Talk Video and discussion, led by Ken Nelson

March 9. "For the Bible Tells Me So", Part 1. Video and discussion. An exploration of the intersection between religion and homosexuality in the U.S. Faith UMC studied this video extensively when we made our decision to become a Reconciling Congregation two years ago.

March 16. "For the Bible Tells Me So", Part 2. Video and discussion.

March 23. Crimes and Punishment: Repentance, Forgiveness and Rehabilitation, by Faith UMC member, Tom Campbell. Tom has been with the Hennepin County Department of Community Corrections and Rehabilitation for almost 25 years. he will talk about how the corrections system helps people change.

March 30. Plastics in Our Oceans; Part 2. Video and discussion led by Ken Nelson

What Are You Praying About? (Conference Room)

Join others in sharing and discussing the important joys and concerns in your life.

For the Beauty of the Earth *by Rev. Susan Mullin*



Differing Perspectives on Divestment

This month, I am continuing a discussion about the movement to divest from fossil fuels that I began last month. Recently I had the opportunity to participate in a role-playing exercise to consider differing perspectives on the idea of divestment. What follows are my thoughts after reflecting on the role play. My one caveat – Remember that people (even people in the same group) are never of one mind...

Creation Care advocates are aware of the seriousness of the climate crisis and they are convinced that we need to act now. Fossil fuel corporations have five times more oil and coal and gas in known reserves than climate scientists think is safe to burn. Therefore, we have to keep 80% of those reserves underground if we are to keep the earth in a livable condition for humanity. Divestment is a way to raise public awareness about the threat from continued exploration and development of fossil fuel reserves. Creation Care advocates believe that it is simply wrong to make

a profit from wrecking the climate, and divestment is one way to hold fossil fuel companies accountable for their actions.

Investment Managers point out that the United Methodist General Board is the largest denominational investor and manages one of the top 100 pension funds in the U.S. They actively engage with corporations through letters, shareholder resolutions, and dialogue. In September 2013, they joined with 70 other investors, together managing funds worth over three trillion dollars, to send a letter to 40 of the world's largest coal, oil, gas, and electric power companies. They asked these companies to answer questions about the financial risks to these investments caused by climate change. In particular, they asked them to provide details of how they will respond to a low-carbon future – one in which the world gets serious about reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 80% by 2050 as recommended by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Divestment is a tool of last resort.

Pastors have differing viewpoints, of course! But they have a common concern because this is their pension fund we are talking about. They want to be sure that whatever action we take, their pension will not suffer. This is difficult to guarantee, since no one knows what will happen in the future. Will divestment from fossil fuels lower the returns on their investments? Or are fossil fuels becoming a risky investment? If and when we enact legislation that taxes or regulates carbon, do the assets of fossil fuel companies become “stranded” and lose their value as we switch to lower cost renewable options?

What would **God** say? Isn't this the task of the church – to figure out how God is at work in the world and to join in? I think that God would remind us that the earth and all that is within it belong to God, not to us. We are stewards, responsible to God for how we treat the earth. God would also remind us that we have a special obligation to care for the most vulnerable: the young and the old, the poor, the ones who have no investments and no voice in this discussion, future generations, and creation itself. And perhaps more challenging – didn't Jesus say something about not storing up riches here on earth?

Members and Friends of the United Methodist Church: Now it is your turn. What do you think about divestment? Should the United Methodist Pension Board divest of stock in companies that profit from fossil fuel exploration, development, and production? If you have personal investments, would you consider doing the same with your own investments? Does your use of financial resources reflect your values? Why or why not?

Community Connections

Creation Care Events

Minnesota Interfaith Power & Light is hosting a meeting on March 4th: Divestment 101! Come join others who are interested or involved in divestment efforts in their faith communities. With the support of leaders who are experienced in leading faith-based divestment campaigns, we will answer your questions and discuss strategies for success! 2104 Stevens Ave. S; 6:30-8:00pm. Contact [Dwight Wagenius](mailto:Dwight.Wagenius@gmail.com) for more information: dwagenius@gmail.com

St. Anthony Citizens for Sustainability (CFS) will meet for a forum on: What is Sustainability, and Why Do We Need It? Saturday, March 8th, 3:00-5:00 p.m. at the St. Anthony Village City Council Chambers. Clifton Ware, CFS organizer, will present a slideshow-talk explaining the basics of sustainability, with a focus on the interconnectedness of Environment, Energy, and Economy. Guests are especially welcome to attend to learn more about CFS and of collaborative sustainability initiatives with the city St. Anthony Village and surrounding communities.



Meet other Reconciling United Methodists

All who wish to support Reconciling in Minnesota are invited to Walker Community United Methodist Church on Saturday, March 22.

We will gather at 10 a.m. for a program that will include Reconciling updates, fellowship and a potluck lunch at 12 noon.

Walker is located at 3104 16th Ave S, Minneapolis, MN 55407. Last year this "gathering" was held at Faith.

This year we're going to Walker - the church that burned less than two years ago and is now in a new building.

If you have questions about this gathering, please contact Judy Jerde, 651-426-0156 or jan@hopefultravelers.net



High Tea Fundraiser

For NE Senior Services

March 22, 2014

1:00-3:00 pm

Autumn Woods, 2600 Kenzie Terrace

\$25 per person

Enjoy a lovely time sipping tea and tasting five courses of savory and sweet yummy treats at a tea party.

To reserve your ticket, call NE Seniors at 612-781-5096 by March 12

Proceeds provide operating support for NE Senior Services.



Church Calendar - March 2014

Date	Event	Time	Date	Event	Time
Sun. 3/2	Faith Praise Singers/WC	8:30 AM	Tues. 3/18	Communications Meeting/EB	6:30 PM
	Adult Christian Ed/various	9:00 AM	Wed. 3/19	Mary Martha/EB	9:30 AM
	Fellowship/Commons	10:00 AM		Pastoral Staff Meeting	10:30 AM
	Worship/WC	10:30 AM		Organist Rehearsal/WC	4:00 PM
	Children & Youth Christian Ed	10:30 AM		Meal/FH	5:30 PM
Mon. 3/3	Cub Dens/114, 115, 116	6:30 PM		Confirmation/Faith UMC	6:15 PM
	Boy Scouts/FH	7:00 PM		Youth Group/Faith UMC	6:15 PM
Wed. 3/5	Mary Martha/EB	9:30 AM		Worship/WC	6:30 PM
	Pastoral Staff Meeting	10:30 AM		Handbells/217	7:30 PM
	Organist Rehearsal/WC	4:00 PM	Thu. 3/20	Men's Work Group	9:00 AM
	Meal/Fellowship Hall	5:45 PM		Lectionary Group	12:00 PM
	Ash Wed Worship/WC	6:30 PM		Cub Den/114	6:30 PM
	Sanctuary Choir/WC	7:15 PM		Spanish Class/EB	6:30 PM
	Handbells/217	7:30 PM	Fri. 3/21	Planet Home School/	8:45 AM
Thu. 3/6	Lectionary Group	12:00 PM		KI, FH, 114,115,116,117,121,122	
	Cub Den/114	6:30 PM		Pack Advancement Ceremony/FH	6:30 PM
	Spanish Class/EB	6:30 PM	Sun. 3/23	Adult Christian Ed/various	9:00 AM
Fri. 3/7	Planet Home School/	8:45 AM		Fellowship/Commons	10:00 AM
	KI, FH, 114,115,116,117,121,122			Worship/WC	10:30 AM
Sat. 3/8	Men's Breakfast/Perkins	8:00 AM		Children & Youth Christian Ed	10:30 AM
Sun. 3/9	Faith Praise Singers/WC	9:00 AM	Mon. 3/24	Cub Dens/114,115,116	6:30 PM
	Adult Christian Ed/various	9:00 AM		Scouts/EB	7:00 PM
	Fellowship/Commons	10:00 AM	Tues. 3/25	Finance Meeting/CR	7:00 PM
	Worship/WC	10:30 AM	Wed. 3/26	Mary Martha/EB	9:30 AM
	Children & Youth Christian Ed	10:30 AM		Mom's Club/115	9:45 AM
Mon. 3/10	April information for Call of Faith due			Pastoral Staff Meeting/CR	10:30 AM
	Cub Dens/114,115,116	6:30 PM		Organist Rehearsal/WC	4:00 PM
	Scout Leaders/FH	7:00 PM		Meal/FH	5:30 PM
Tues. 3/11	Adult Ministry/CR	4:00 PM		Confirmation Encounter	6:15 PM
	Outreach meeting	7:00 PM		Youth Group/Faith UMC	6:15 PM
Wed. 3/12	Mary Martha/EB	9:30 PM		Worship/WC	6:30 PM
	Pastoral Staff Meeting	10:30 AM		Sanctuary Choir/WC	7:15 PM
	Organist Rehearsal/WC	4:00 PM		Handbells/217	7:30 PM
	Meal/Northeast UMC	5:30 PM	Thu. 3/27	Lectionary Group	12:00 PM
	Confirmation /Youth Faith UMC	6:15 PM		Covenant Group	12:00 PM
	Worship/Northeast UMC	6:30 PM		500 Cards/EB	1:00 PM
	Sanctuary Choir/WC	7:15 PM		Cub Den/114	6:30 PM
	Handbells/217	7:30 PM		Spanish Class/EB	6:30 PM
Thu. 3/13	Lectionary Group	12:00 PM	Fri. 3/28	Planet Home School/	8:45 AM
	500 Cards/EB	1:00 PM		KI, FH, 114,115,116,117,121,122	
	Cub Den/114	6:30 PM	Sun. 3/30	Adult Christian Ed/various	9:00 AM
	Spanish Class/EB	6:30 PM		Fellowship/Commons	10:00 AM
	Board of Trustees/CR	7:00 PM		Worship/WC	10:30 AM
Fri. 3/14	Planet Home School/	8:45 AM		Children & Youth Christian Ed	10:30 AM
	KI, FH, 114,115,116,117,121,122		Mon. 3/31	Cub Dens//114,115,116	6:30 PM
Sat. 3/15	NE Community Meal			Scouts/FH	7:00 PM
	Art & Soul/FH	9:00 AM			
Sun. 3/16	Adult Christian Ed/various	9:00 AM			
	Fellowship/Commons	10:00 AM			
	Worship/WC	10:30 AM			
	Children & Youth Christian Ed	10:30 AM			
	Pack Leaders/FH	4:00 PM			
Mon. 3/17	Irish Program by Pastor Leigh	3:00 PM			
	a Senior Adult Ministry Event				
	Cub Dens/114,115,116	6:30 PM			
	Scout Leaders/FH	7:00 PM			

Classical Music Academy is held on most:

Mondays 7:00 - 9:00 PM in room 218
 Tuesdays: 12:00 PM - 9:00 PM in rooms 116, 121, 218
 Thursdays: 2:30 PM - 9:00 PM in rooms 116, 121

Bradley Childbirth Classes:

Sundays 4:00 - 6:00 PM
 in Room 115
 Wednesdays 6:00 - 8:00 PM
 in the Nursery

Abbreviation Key:

CR = Conference Room
 EB = Ebenezer Room
 FH = Fellowship Hall,
 KI = Kitchen
 WC = Worship Center/Sanctuary

eat this!
in remembrance of me



the personal, political, spiritual and environmental facets of food



Wednesday evenings during Lent 2014
Community, Faith, Northeast
United Methodist churches

join us for dinner 5:30 pm; worship service 6:30-7:15 pm



Mar 12 ***food & health***
Northeast United Methodist Church
2510 Cleveland St. NE, Minneapolis
(corner of Lowry and Cleveland)



Mar 19 ***food & poverty***
Faith United Methodist Church
2708 33rd Ave NE, St Anthony
(between Stinson and Silver Lake Rd)



Mar 26 ***food & the land***
Faith United Methodist Church
2708 33rd Ave NE, St Anthony
(between Stinson and Silver Lake Rd)



Apr 2 ***food & sacrifice***
Northeast United Methodist Church
2510 Cleveland St. NE, Minneapolis
(corner of Lowry and Cleveland)



Apr 9 ***food & community***
Community United Methodist Church
950 Gould Ave, Columbia Heights
(behind Heights Theatre)