



# Call of Faith

Fall 2017 Edition

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

*Faith is Handicap Accessible*

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## Church News

### A NEW SEASON—RALLY DAY— SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 10, 2017

**Discover** a deeper understanding of what it means to be a church. Together we will watch a video, read scripture, and wrestle with the questions, "Why Go to Church?"

Rally Day Class 9:00-10:00 am  
Fellowship Hall

Three adult classes starting September 17

Faith Forum 9:00-10:00 am  
Bible Study  
What are You Praying About?

#### **Connect** with your Faith Family & Friends

Fellowship Time 10:00-10:30 am  
Worship: River Sunday 10:30 am  
Kids Connect – start in Worship  
Nursery – during Worship  
Picnic lunch 11:30 am

**Make a Difference** by donating to the Reach Renew Rejoice Initiative of the Minnesota Annual Conference (see page 13)

#### **New! Rally Day Class for High School Students and Adults**

Sunday, September 10  
9:00-10:00 am in  
Fellowship Hall



We begin on Rally Day with the question, "Why go to church?" We will watch a short video featuring Bruce Reyes-Chow, a Presbyterian church-planter and social media guru. We will read scripture and discuss that question and others about the meaning and relevance of church in our lives. Come and join the discussion!

#### Sunday Morning Schedule: September 17, 2017—May 20, 2018

9:00 am	Adult classes
10:00 am	Fellowship Time
10:30 am	Worship Service/Nursery Available
10:30 am	Kids Connect

**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. We will happily arrange for childcare!**

#### Church Contacts

##### **Faith UMC Staff**

Pastor	Rev. Diane M. Christianson	<a href="mailto:dchristianson@faithumchurch.com">dchristianson@faithumchurch.com</a>
Minister of Faith Formation & Outreach	Rev. Susan Mullin	<a href="mailto:smullin@faithumchurch.com">smullin@faithumchurch.com</a>
Deacon (under secondary appt.)	Rev. Andrew Keck	
Director of Music	Jo Halvorsen	<a href="mailto:joh@faithumchurch.com">joh@faithumchurch.com</a>
Organist	Marie Kuglin	
Business Manager	Janet Olson	<a href="mailto:jolson@faithumchurch.com">jolson@faithumchurch.com</a>
Facility Manager	Carl Anderson	<a href="mailto:canderson@faithumchurch.com">canderson@faithumchurch.com</a>

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## A Message from *Rev. Diane M. Christianson*

### **125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Events**

We continue celebrating our quasiquicentennial through the end of 2017!

Bishop Bruce Ough will preach on October 15.

District Superintendent Rev. Dan Johnson will preach on November 19.

Our concluding anniversary celebration will be in December.

In addition, two new resources will be available early this fall:

The Faith UMC history booklet and supplement, and

Enhanced DVD of the April 30, 2017 Pastors Sunday, when former pastors were with us to celebrate our 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a congregation.

Our congregation began as Second Swedish Methodist Episcopal Church of Minneapolis in 1892. In 1913 the church was renamed Ebenezer. In 1955, the congregation moved to St. Anthony Village. The name was changed to Faith in 1956, and the first service was held in our new building in 1957. We have a lot to celebrate!

Dear Friends,

We are gearing up for fall!

Rally Sunday, September 10, is our kick-off event. As we return from summer vacations and cabin living, we reconnect with one another. The theme for worship is "River Sunday" and we will have a river in the sanctuary. (Ok, it might be made of blue cloth, but we can still call it a river.) Lunch will be served following worship.

Our Stewardship Campaign begins on September 17 and concludes with Pledge Sunday on October 29. This year, with guidance from a book called *Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations* by Robert Schnase, we will talk about many ways of being a steward in God's world:

Radical Hospitality

Passionate Worship

Intentional Faith Development

Risk-taking Mission and Service

Extravagant Generosity

Stewardship is about more than how we manage our finances. Stewardship is about all the ways we live our lives as disciples of Jesus Christ. Come, enjoy the journey!

*"Praise the Lord!*

*Sing to the Lord a new song;*

*sing God's praise in the assembly of the faithful!" --Psalm 149:1*

See you in church!

Blessings,

Pastor Diane M. Christianson

## Church News (continued)

### Wednesday Evenings starting September 13, 2017



**5:30 pm** Sharing a meal together is a great way to connect with others. Please join us for a simple meal at 5:30 pm (NOTE: new start time for dinner). A \$5 donation is appreciated, but not required. All are welcome.

**6:15 pm** Confirmation Class

**6:30 pm** Contemplative Worship Service. On Wednesday evenings from September through mid-May, we gather for worship in song, poetry, scripture, and silent and spoken prayer. It's at time to slow down and re-center ourselves in the midst of the week—to remember that we are the people of God, called to be a loving, healing, and justice-seeking presence in the world. We find calm in meditative music, we center ourselves in prayer and silent meditation, and we experience scripture in a new way when we read it side by side with contemporary or ancient poetry. We light candles to remember those who have gone before us, to send healing prayers for those who need healing, encouragement, or justice and to express our commitment to continue listening to God's will in our lives.

You are welcome to participate at whatever level you want to participate! You may want to slip in quietly and simply let the liturgy and song wash over you without uttering a word. You may want to join in the singing and the communal prayers. You may want to participate in leading the service by lighting candles, reading, leading prayers or songs, and even choosing readings or setting up the altar. Talk to Rev. Susan, Tom Campbell, or Bill Pappin for more information.

**7:15 pm** Sanctuary Choir rehearsal (starts Sept 6)

**7:30 pm** Centennial Bells rehearsal

### Considering "Altar for All"

When Faith became a Reconciling Congregation in March 2011, legal marriage for gay and lesbian couples was not an option. As far as we know, same-sex marriages or blessing ceremonies were not considered. Shortly after Faith became Reconciling, some UMC clergy began to publicly state that they would no longer discriminate in their ministries by denying full rights and opportunities to LGBT persons. This included officiating same-sex marriage or blessing ceremonies and holding them in churches. Rev. Bruce Robbins was a leader in what became known as "Altar for All".

This past spring, the Faith Outreach Committee began to discuss whether or not Faith should become an "Altar for All" congregation. The Committee felt it was important for the church to consider this and the Ad Council supports this process. This fall, we will study "Altar for All" and the congregation will vote on it at the 2018 Charge Conference.

We have a number of opportunities planned to learn about this:

October 8 , 9:00 am – Rev. Bruce Robbins, retired, will hold an informal conversation about "Altar for All" during Faith Forum and will provide the message on this topic in Worship.

October 15 & 22, 9:00 am – Judy Jerde and Rev. John McCabe, retired, will provide more detailed information about "Altar for All" during Faith Forum.

November 7, 1-2:30 p.m. Ebenezer Room – repeat of the Faith Forum presentation.

November 16, 7-8:30 p.m. Ebenezer Room – repeat of the Faith Forum presentation.

Prior to the Charge Conference, Pastors Diane and Susan will have a dialogue sermon on this topic.

The Outreach Committee encourages all to participate in the opportunities to learn about "Altar for All". If you have questions, please talk to Kay Kramer, Outreach Chair; Judy Jerde or John McCabe, Outreach members; or Pastors Diane or Susan.

# Church News (continued)

## Art & Soul Schedule

Watch the bulletin for an announcement about this year's schedule.



## Sign-up for Round Robin Dinners

Join others for dinner and conversation. Couples welcome! Singles welcome! Or pair up with a Friend! People who sign-up will be divided into groups of 6-8 people and within the group organize monthly meals to share together. Sign up is in the Commons on the small table. Please sign-up by September 15. All are welcome! Contact: Mary Ann Thuesen.



## Travel to the Holy Land 2018

Pastor Diane will lead another group to the Holy Land next year. Maybe this is the year for you to go, too!

### **Living Stones Pilgrimage:**

The purpose of this trip is to learn about life in Palestine/Israel from Christian, Jewish, and Muslim residents of the country. As we journey to sites in Bethlehem, Jericho, Jordan River, Nazareth, Sea of Galilee, Jacob's Well, and Jerusalem, we will also visit with local residents and community leaders.

This is an 11-day journey leaving on Monday, January 15<sup>th</sup>.

Cost starts at \$3308, which includes airfare from New York and most meals. Additional costs include airfare from Minneapolis to New York and optional travel insurance.

More information is available at [www.jcbs.org](http://www.jcbs.org). The tour number is JC18/011518L, ID# 44316. Printed brochures are on the Welcome Table.

Is your travel appetite whetted? Please contact Pastor Diane with questions. A pilgrimage to the Holy Land is a journey that will inspire you for life!

## Musical Groups at Faith UMC



### **Sanctuary Choir – Jo Halvorsen Director**

The choir sings an anthem and responses in the worship service almost every Sunday. Occasionally we have a Sunday "off". We also participate in Special Services. We begin on September 6 with our first rehearsal. We rehearse Wednesdays from 7:15 – 8:45 pm and warm-up Sunday mornings at 9:45 am. You don't need to read music although it is helpful!

Contact Jo Halvorsen at [jojogrammy@msn.com](mailto:jojogrammy@msn.com)

### **Centennial Handbells – Janet Johnson - Director**

Interested in ringing bells? Rehearsals start on Wednesday September 13, 7:30 pm. We play during Sunday services every 4-6 weeks. If you can read music, and have played a musical instrument, we would love to have you join us! It would be great to have you with us all year, but if you can only join us for a few months, we'll work with that! If you are interested, please contact Janet Johnson, handbell director, at: [jrcjohnson@yahoo.com](mailto:jrcjohnson@yahoo.com) or 612-788-1502.

### **Faith Praise Band – Neal McIntosh – Director**

Faith Praise Band participates in the worship service almost every Sunday. Our rehearsals are Sunday morning before the worship service and occasionally on Saturdays. If you are interested and have a desire to express yourself in a Christian contemporary musical style, please join us at Faith. Youth and young adults are encouraged to consider this musical and talented ministry.

### **Faith Praise Singers – Jeanne Vogt - Director**

Faith Praise Singers is a small contemporary vocal group here at Faith. They perform about once a month on Sundays during our Worship Service; rehearsals are on occasional Wednesday evenings from 6:30 pm to 7:15 pm.

*The Music Department invites you to consider participation in our music groups. You can contact the directors or sit in a rehearsal to try it out. Our groups will work with your schedule and you can participate on a short term or all season.*

# Extend and Serve

## Northeast Senior Services' Fall Fundraiser

Hosted by Faith UMC

Friday, October 6, 2017, 4:30 – 7:00 pm

Dinner—Door Prizes – Entertainment

Dinner: main course is Lemon-Rosemary Roasted Chicken

Tickets are available prior to the event or available at the door. Cost \$15 age 17 & up, \$5 age 6-16 , free for children 5 years old and under

For more information please contact Northeast Senior Services at 612-781-5096



## Volunteers are needed for the Northeast Senior Services' Fall Fundraiser

Friday, October 6, 2017

Volunteers are needed to make coffee, serve food, assist the chef, and help with clean-up

Also—six cakes are needed for the event. Sign-up sheets are in the Commons

## Outreach Team Gathering

Wednesday, September 20, 2017

5:00 pm; Fellowship Hall

The Outreach Team focuses on ways we can make a difference in our community and in our world.

Anyone interested is welcome to join us. Please bring your ideas to the team. Stay for the Wednesday evening meal at 5:30 pm and the Contemplative Service at 6:30 pm.

## McVay Youth Partnership

Another school year is here and Faith Church will continue to support the McVay Youth Partnership. Hamline University students serve as mentors and role models for urban middle and high school students. These people all need nourishment especially after being in school all day and then continuing their work and some play after school. Please bring in nutritious snacks for the students to enjoy. Cash donations are also accepted. The McVay Youth Partnership can access Second Harvest to obtain food for their program also. Thank you for your support.



## SignUp Genius.com

SignUp Genius is an online scheduler used to recruit Faith members to sign up for helping others in our congregation. Since its start up SignUp Genius has been used to secure rides for individuals, provide meals when needed, etc. It also is being used for the sign-up to prepare the Wednesday evening meal.

To use the site and volunteer,

visit: <http://www.signupgenius.com> or

Sign-up sheets are on the "volunteer table" at church. Reggie McCarthy is the organizer of this valuable service!

Please contact her to receive volunteers notices.

## Simpson Shelter Evening Meal

On November 12 Faith Church will be preparing and serving the meal at the Simpson Shelter in Minneapolis: 3:00 pm-prep at Faith, 6:00 pm-serve meal at Simpson, 7:00 pm-clean up, back to Faith by 8:30 pm. Please put this on your calendar. Many hands make light work . Contact Amy Neuswanger or Kay Kramer if you have questions or are able to help.



## NE Community Meal

Outreach team will be preparing and serving the N.E. Community Meal at Northeast UMC (corner of Lowry & Cleveland) on Saturday, Sept 16 & Oct 21 & Nov 18. If you are able to help, sign-up will be in the Commons.



# Christian Education—Sunday Mornings

## Kids Connect

Sundays, 10:30-11:30, beginning September 10

Children will be attending the first part of the worship service each Sunday, and we encourage them to sit with their class in the front pews (on the left-hand side as you enter the sanctuary). Children will be helping to lead the service, and we will plan the first part of our worship services with them in mind. After the scripture reading, the children and their teachers will go downstairs for hands-on activities related to the scripture readings. We will continue to have two classes; one for children 4 years old through 4<sup>th</sup> grade, and a middle school class for children in grades 5-8). Adults and children will be focused on the same readings each week – and we hope this will facilitate family conversations.

This year we will continue using *Seasons of the Spirit* curriculum and worship materials. *Seasons of the Spirit* supports faith communities and families in their life together by

- exploring meaning and mystery in the Bible
- being grounded in thoughtful theology
- empowering children, youth, and adults to be transformed in Christ
- nurturing the imaginative spirit
- integrating worship, learning, and serving ministries

Seasons' vision is for an authentic Christianity lived in our culturally diverse and religiously pluralistic world; to be signs of God's liberating, compassionate, and inclusive love, and to grow in our relationship with God. Seasons encourages Christian growth through worshipping, learning, and serving together.



## Bible Study

Sunday Mornings; beginning September 17, 9:00-10:00 am in Fellowship Hall

We will be studying the book, *Naked Spirituality* by Brian D. McLaren. McLaren writes, “This is a book about getting naked—not physically, but spiritually.

It's about stripping away the symbols and status of public religion—the Sunday-dress version people often call ‘organized religion.’ And it's about attending to the well-being of the soul ...” According to one reviewer, this is “a rich, brilliant and important book: wonderfully readable and personal, filled with insight and wisdom, it invites us into practices that can transform our lives.” This class is for anyone who wants to grow and deepen their spiritual life. All are welcome. No previous knowledge of the Bible is required.

## Faith Forum

Sunday Mornings; 9:00 –10:00 am in the Ebenezer Room

Faith Forum is an adult class in which we hear from speakers and discuss topics related to social economic and environmental justice. It is facilitated by Tricia & Mark Grimes, Nancy Nielsen and Darlene Puncochar.

- Sept 10 No meeting
- Sept 17 John and Dana Schroeder, will be speaking to us about Charter Schools in MN. Jon is a retired former director of Education Evolving, Dana is a journalist with the Citizens' League
- Sept 24 Dan McNeil— a representative of PeaceMaker Minnesota, an organization partnering with schools to make them safe places for all.
- Oct 1 Lowell Thompson, resident of New Brighton, former School Board member of 282 who was invited to part of an international running team competing in North Korea. His experiences were very interesting.
- Oct 8 Rev. Bruce Robbins, a retired Methodist minister, Altar of All
- Oct 15 Judy Jerde & Rev. John McCabe, Altar for All
- Oct 22 Judy Jerde & Rev. John McCabe, Altar for All
- Oct 29 Kara Kramer Arzamendia, MN Dept of Education will present “Tracking Student Success with the Statewide Longitudinal Data System” (LEDS)

## What are you Praying About?

Sunday Mornings  
9:00-10:00 am in the Conference Room

Bring your coffee and share what you are praying about. We discuss a variety of topics as determined by the group. It's a great way to get to know other people from Faith church in a casual setting.

# Christian Education (continued)

## Nursery available Sundays during worship



We are happy to provide nursery care for children ages newborn to 4 years of age, enabling parents and guardians to participate freely in the worship service. The goal of our nursery workers is to provide a loving, Christian atmosphere that is safe for infants and toddlers. The nursery is staffed with a minimum of two volunteers, including one lead volunteer who has had a background check. When a child is approaching their fourth birthday, nursery workers will talk to the parents or guardians about when to invite that child to transition to our elementary Sunday school class.

## Covenant Discipleship Group

Day & Time to be decided.  
Conference Room



The term "Methodist" was originally a pejorative term used to make fun of the early followers of John Wesley. They were called Methodists because these young people were very intentional, disciplined, and even methodical about living the Christian life; including personal devotion, participation in worship, and serving others through acts of compassion and justice. A Covenant Discipleship Group is a group of up to seven people who meet for one hour each week. Guided by a covenant they themselves write, they help one another become more dependable disciples of Jesus Christ. This is not a study group – it is a group devoted to the art and practice of living out our baptismal covenant to live as faithful disciples of Jesus Christ. As we meet together each week, we tell each other how we have succeeded in living up to our covenant, and also the ways we struggled or failed to live up to our covenant. We support one another by extending grace and forgiveness, and we also encourage one another to be the people that God would have us be. If you are interested in learning more about Covenant Discipleship Groups or would like to join a group, please talk to Rev. Susan or send her an email at [smullin@faithumchurch.com](mailto:smullin@faithumchurch.com).

## Mary Martha

**Meets the 1st & 3rd Wednesdays  
of the month  
9:30—11:00 am**

Mary Martha is a women's group that meets regularly for study and fellowship. They will have an introductory/organizational meeting on Wednesday, September 6 at 9:30 am.

This fall they will be studying *Creed: What Christians Believe and Why; Exploring the Apostle's Creed*, by Adam Hamilton. In the introduction Hamilton says, "Thirty-five years ago I decided that I believed the tenets expressed in the Apostles' Creed...Those beliefs have led me to say no to many things I may have said yes to, and to say yes to things I might otherwise have said no to. For Christians, the beliefs expressed in the Apostles' Creed are foundational. In this book, we'll consider what Christians believe, why they believe it, and why it matters." Nancy Howell, a professor at Saint Paul School of Theology says "Adam Hamilton not only explains Christian beliefs with clarity, but also engages contemporary questions about atheism, science, disparity, violence, and life—and explains why belief matters."

All women are welcome to join the group.

Please contact Ardyce Johnson for further information.

## Antiracism Study Dialogue Circle

This fall we have an opportunity to host and to participate in an antiracism study dialogue circle at Faith UMC. This circle will meet every Saturday morning from September 9 through November 11 from 8:00 am to 12:30 pm.

The goals of the dialogue circle are to help us think critically about the racism present within our culture, understand how it shapes our relationships, and learn how to cross barriers of difference to form friendships, coalitions, and networks.

You can sign up to participate in the antiracism dialogue circle on the sign-up sheet in the Commons or by going to our website at [www.faitumchurch.com](http://www.faitumchurch.com). The cost is \$365 per person, plus \$40 for the manual. Please contact Rev. Susan Mullin if you need a scholarship to attend.

Deadline for signing up is Saturday September 2.

# Community Connections

## Women of Song



Women of Song is a community women's choir that is looking for women in the Twin Cities area who love to sing!

Rehearsals for *Women of Song* are Monday nights from 6:45-8:45 p.m. at Peace Lutheran Church, 3965 Co. Rd. 101, Plymouth, MN.

Monday rehearsals will begin Sept. 11. Please contact director, Michelle Gehrz at [womenofsongchoir@gmail.com](mailto:womenofsongchoir@gmail.com) or visit our website at [www.womenofsongchoir.com](http://www.womenofsongchoir.com) for more information.

## LEAFs—Fall 2017

LEAFs (Life Enrichment Adult Forums) is an ecumenical adult experience. Enrollment and participation is open to anyone who has interest.

This fall series of educational and entertaining sessions are scheduled for Sept 11 & 25 at Christ Lutheran Church and Oct 9 & 23 at St. Philips Lutheran Church.

Each session is on a Monday and begins at 9:00 am and ends with lunch and a social hour. For additional information and to register go to [leafsforums.org](http://leafsforums.org).

Watch for brochures and registration forms at the Seniors Table in the Commons.



## Eco-Kids Camp a Success!

We had a great week at Eco-Kids Camp this year! Twenty-three children in grades 3-6 learned about trees—they counted tree rings and considered what tree rings can tell us about the life of the tree, learned to measure the height of a tree and did some experiments that relate to how water travels up the trunk to the leaves. They learned how to make fire with a magnifying glass and with flint and steel (and they roasted marshmallows). They made wooden napkin holders and tree art. They listened to poetry, told stories, and wrote poems crafted entirely from questions. They tended baby Cottonwood seedlings along the Mississippi River, caught and examined insects in the prairie, built forts in the woods, and made clay tiles with textures from plants. We talked about the first rule of camp—"love is spoken here." And we did our best to practice being loving to one another. We were not perfect! One parent said they were "impressed how welcoming, present, and loving the volunteers/staff were individually and as a community." Another parent said his children "learned about trees, but just as importantly they progressed in human relationships." These are amazing testimonies to the work we are doing and the relationships we are building in our community!

## Why Water Matters

Thursday November 16, 2017 to Saturday November 18, 2017; Contact: Carol Easton  
Embassy Suites Minneapolis Airport, 7901 34th Ave S, Minneapolis, MN 55425

Why Water Matters is a summit for faith and community leaders who want to take clear community action for water conservation and education. This event will feature workshops, resources and leadership from the Native American, Theological and Environmental communities.

For more information and a list of speakers which includes Bishop Sally Dyck and Bishop Bruce Ough, go to <http://www.minnesotaumc.org/eventdetail/why-water-matters-8813138>

Cost is \$175 before Sept 1, \$195 Sept 1-Oct 15, \$225 after Oct 15

Deadline to sign-up is November 1, 2017 12:00 am

Sponsored by the North Central Jurisdiction Committee on Native American Ministries of the United Methodist Church

# Church Calendar - September 2017

Date	Event	Time
Sun 09/3	Worship/WC Tree Sunday	9:30 AM
	Fellowship Time	10:30 AM
Mon 09/4	Labor Day—Church Office Closed	
Tues 09/05	Square & Twirl	
	Square Dancing/FH	6:30 PM
Wed 09/6	Mary Martha/Ebenezer Room	9:30 AM
	Staff Meeting/CR	10:00 AM
	Organist Rehearsal/WC	4:00 PM
	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal/WC	7:15 PM
Fri 09/8	Carpet Cleaning/Church	10:00 AM
Sat 09/9	Men's Breakfast/Perkins	8:00 AM
	Anti-Racism Dialogue Circle	8:00 AM
Sun 09/10	Rally Day River Sunday	
	Rally Day Class/Fellowship Hall	9:00 AM
	Fellowship Time	10:00 AM
	Worship Service/WC	10:30 AM
	Kids Connect	10:30 AM
	Picnic Lunch	11:30 AM
Mon 09/11	Cub Scouts/115	6:30 PM
	Boy Scouts/Webelos II/FH	7:00 PM
Wed 09/13	Staff Meeting/CR	10:00 AM
	Organist Rehearsal/WC	4:00 PM
	Meal/FH	5:30 PM
	Confirmation Kick-off	6:15 PM
	Contemplative Service/WC	6:30 PM
	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal/WC	7:15 PM
	Centennial Handbells/217	7:30 PM
Thur 09/14	Lectionary Group/CR	12:00 PM
	Trustees/CR	7:00 PM
Fri 09/15	Planet Home School/ downstairs	8:45 AM
	Square & Twirl	
	Square Dancing/FH	6:30 PM
Sat 09/16	Anti-Racism Dialogue Circle	8:00 AM
	Women's Breakfast/Perkins	9:00 AM
	NE Community Meal prep/NE UMC	4:30 PM
	NE Community Meal/NE UMC	6:00 PM

Date	Event	Time
Sun 09/17	Faith Formation Groups	9:00 AM
	Fellowship Time	10:00 AM
	Worship Service/WC	10:30 AM
	Kids Connect	10:30 AM
	Square & Twirl	
	Square Dancing/FH	1:30 PM
Mon 09/18	Cub Scouts 115	6:30 PM
	Boy Scouts/Webelos II/FH	7:00 PM
Tue 09/19	Staff Parish Relations/EB	6:30 PM
Wed 09/20	Mary Martha/EB	9:30 AM
	Staff Meeting/CR	10:00 AM
	Organist Rehearsal/WC	4:00 PM
	Outreach/FH	5:00 PM
	Meal/FH	5:30 PM
	Confirmation	6:15 PM
	Contemplative Service/WC	6:30 PM
	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal/WC	7:15 PM
	Centennial Handbells/217	7:30 PM
Thur 09/21	Men's Work Group	9:00 AM
	Lectionary Group/CR	12:00 PM
Fri 09/22	Planet Home School/ downstairs	8:45 AM
Sat 09/23	Anti-Racism Dialogue Circle	8:00 AM
Sun 9/24	Faith Formation Groups	9:00 AM
	Fellowship Time	10:00 AM
	Worship Service/WC	10:30 AM
	Kids Connect	10:30 AM
Mon 09/25	Cub Scouts 115	6:30 PM
	Boy Scouts/Webelos II/FH	7:00 PM
Tue 09/26	Finance/CR	7:00 PM
Wed 09/27	Mom's Club/114 & 115	9:45 AM
	Staff Meeting/CR	10:00 AM
	Organist Rehearsal/WC	4:00 PM
	Meal/FH	5:30 PM
	Confirmation	6:15 PM
	Contemplative Service/WC	6:30 PM
	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal/WC	7:15 PM
	Centennial Handbells/217	7:30 PM
Thu 09/28	Lectionary Group/CR	12:00 PM
Fri 09/29	Planet Home School/ downstairs	8:45 AM
Sat 09/30	Anti-Racism Dialogue Circle	8:00 AM

**Classical Music Academy— Fall Schedule:**

Mondays 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM (Instructor: Alex) Room 218

Tuesdays 12:30 PM - 8:00 PM (Instructor: Alex) Room 218

Tuesdays 2:30 PM - 8:00 PM (Instructors: Tina, Dz) 116, 121

**Childbirth Education (Sarah Beth Seguin):**

Sunday 2:00 - 4:00 PM, in the Nursery

**Abbreviation Key:**

CR = Conference Room; EB = Ebenezer Room

FH = Fellowship Hall, KI = Kitchen

WC = Worship Center (Sanctuary)

# Reach Renew Rejoice



A Special Offering will be taken at Faith UMC starting Sunday, September 10 (Rally Day) and continuing through the month of September to support the Reach Renew Rejoice Initiative. Our goal for 2017 is \$1,500.

This is part of a three year (2016, 2017, and 2018) commitment that Faith has made to the Minnesota Conference for this initiative.

To make a donation, please use a pew envelope and mark with your name, offering number and "Rejoice".

## Vision and plan

The Minnesota Conference's vision is for all congregations to live out God's call to grow in love of God and neighbor, reach new people, and heal a broken world.

The Minnesota Conference has a seven-year plan for congregational development. Its two components: starting new churches and growing existing churches by equipping them to increase vitality.

The conference launched a capital campaign in 2014 to raise funds for these efforts, and as of June 2016, pledges had surpassed the \$3.7 million goal. Thanks be to God, and thank you for your generosity!

Through this initiative, each year for seven years, we will start one new church where demographics and opportunity align, assist 20 existing churches in revitalizing their ministries, and partner with a vital parent church to multiply its ministry beyond its current site. These efforts will occur in every district within the Minnesota Conference.

## Living into the plan

The Minnesota Conference began living into the plan in 2014. Here's a brief recap of progress to date:

**New churches:** The Minnesota Conference is currently supporting 12 new faith communities. Those include two started in 2014 ([The Beloved](#) in St. Paul and [The Well](#), a second site for Rosemount UMC), two started in 2015 ([New City Church](#) in Minneapolis and a [Twin Cities campus of Embrace Church](#), based in Sioux Falls, South Dakota), and three started in 2016 (Northwest Minneapolis United Methodist Ministry - a Hmong faith community in Robbinsdale, and a second site for [Centennial UMC](#) of Roseville in St. Anthony Park, and the North Summit Church in Blaine).

**Revitalized churches:** In 2014-2016, 62 churches started one of the conference's [revitalization processes](#)—the Healthy Church Initiative, the Missional Church Consultation Initiative, or Choosing the Faithful Path. More churches begin the process each year.

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