

**FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
**December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2018~9:30 A.M.**

*Welcome to Faith United Methodist Church. It is our heart and desire to **engage** the community of Waseca with the Gospel of Jesus Christ, **equip** those who respond to be the next generation of disciples of Jesus Christ and **empower** them to go into the world as partners with God for the healing of the world.*

NEWS OF OUR FAITH COMMUNITY/ WELCOME

**The Season of Advent**

The word Advent means "coming" or "arrival." The focus of the entire season is the celebration of the birth of Jesus the Christ in his First Advent, and the anticipation of the return of Christ the King in his Second Advent. Advent is a celebration of the truth about God, the revelation of God in Christ whereby all of creation might be reconciled to God. That is a process in which we now participate, and the consummation of which we anticipate.

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

L: O Lord of hosts, you have been our Shepherd. You redeem us when we stray from your ways.

**ALL: Stir up your might and come and save us.**

L: How long will you be angry with your people? How long will you hold our iniquities against us?

**All: You have fed us with the bread of tears, and given us tears to drink in full measure.**

L: Let your hand be upon your Son, the one you made strong to accomplish your purposes.

**ALL: Restore us, O Lord God of hosts. Let your face shine upon us, that we might be saved.**

**HYMN OF PRAISE .....“Come , Thou Long-Expected Jesus” .....UMH No. 196**

**The First Candle of Advent the Candle of Expectation (Purple)**

The first candle is traditionally the candle of Expectation or Hope (or in some traditions, Prophecy). This draws attention to the anticipation of the coming of a Messiah. As God’s people were abused by power hungry kings, led astray by self-centered prophets, and lulled into apathy by half-hearted religious leaders, there arose a longing among some for God to raise up a new king who could show them how to be God’s people. They yearned for a return of God’s dynamic presence in their midst. And so, God revealed to the prophets that indeed He would not leave His people without a true Shepherd. While they expected a new earthly king, their expectations fell far short of God’s revelation of Himself in Christ. And yet, the world is not yet fully redeemed. So, we again with expectation, with hope, await God’s new work in history, the second Advent, in which He will again reveal Himself to the world.

**Lighting of the Candle of Expectation (Purple)**



**(Unison) ISAIAH 9:2 - The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned.**

**HYMN OF PRAISE....."O Come, O Come, Emmanuel " .....UMH No. 211 vs.1**

**OPENING PRAYER.....[UNISON]**

**O God, you are the potter, we are the clay. Mold us into new and glorious vessels, that we may be fit for your purposes and exhibit your glory. You are our God; we are your people. Hear our prayers of petition and thanksgiving as we worship you this morning. Amen.**

**RESPONSIVE READING.....Psalm 25: 1-10, UMH No. 757**

**ANTHEM .....“O Come To Set Us Free” .....Faith Choir**

HYMN OF INVITATION.....“Change my Heart, O God”.....TFWS No. 2152

SERVICE OF WORD AND TABLE II

Pg.12-14

SUNDAY SCHOOL All children are invited to attend Sunday School at this time. Please go to the back of the sanctuary to meet your teacher.

SCRIPTURE READING .....Isaiah 9:6-7; Matthew 1:18–23

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it.

Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you shall call his name *Jesus*, for he will save his people from their sins.” All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: “*Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel*” (which means, *God with us*).

L: THIS IS THE WORD OF GOD FOR THE PEOPLE OF GOD.

**All: THANKS BE TO GOD.**

PRAYERS FOR OUR CHURCH AND OUR COMMUNITY

MESSAGE .....“What is in a Name?” .....Pastor Victor

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

\*SONG OF THANKSGIVING.....“Give Thanks” ..... TFWS No. 2036

\*THANKSGIVING FOR GOD'S GIFTS

\*CLOSING HYMN....."What Child Is This?".....UMH No. 219

\*SENDING FORTH.....

Keep alert; Christ is coming soon.  
**We await God's Son.**  
Keep awake; Christ is coming to us.  
**We await God's salvation.**  
Be ready; Christ is among us now.  
**We go with God's blessing.**

EXIT MUSIC

**REMEMBER OUR CHURCH FAMILIES IN YOUR PRAYERS...**

**Remember our church members & friends who are less mobile and are unable to join us as often as they would like, including:**

**Foxdale[Memory Care]:** Ann Swenson

**Colony Court:** Ardella Draheim, Nina Youngberg, Leona Quast, Muriel Jenkins

**Lakeshore Inn:** Florence Gutknecht, Liz Corchran

**Latham Place:** Lucille and George Kubista, Elaine Westrum

**Koda Living Community:** Chuck Youngberg

**Prayer Requests from Sunday:** Steve Conway, Bea Callahan, Connie Moran, Adeline Buss, Russell family, Genell and Jeremy Bell, Victims of the California Fires.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**SERMON NOTE OUTLINES** are on the table in the Narthex.

Confirmation will begin in January.

Please note that Stacy True, Administrative Assistant, will be out of the office on **Monday, December 3, Friday, December 7 and Friday, December 14.**



# 2019 General Conference

## United Methodists Seeking a Way Forward



The Council of Bishops has called a Special Session of the General Conference of The United Methodist Church to be held **February 23-26, 2019** in St. Louis, Missouri. The purpose will be to receive and act on a report from the Commission on a Way Forward based on the recommendations of the Council of Bishops. The 32-member Commission was authorized by General Conference 2016 and appointed by the Council of Bishops to examine paragraphs in The Book of Discipline concerning human sexuality and exploring options to strengthen the unity of the church. [see insert]

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The next Hospitality team meeting will be **Monday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10:30**. We meet about 6 times a year. We are always looking for people to join our group. So think about it and join us.

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December Fellowship Event - We would like to invite members of the congregation to bring their Nativity sets and have them on display on **Sunday the 9<sup>th</sup> of December**. You can bring them and set them up on Saturday, December 8<sup>th</sup> in the Fellowship Hall. We need to end the year with the **BIGGEST AND BEST** display of Nativity sets.

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We would like the congregation to flood the altar area with poinsettias for Christmas week. Please bring them in any time between December 16 through December 23. By Saturday the 22<sup>nd</sup> would be best if you are able. The more we have, the more beautiful our sanctuary will be as we celebrate our Savior's birth. You may leave them in either the nursery or church office.

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Thanks to all the beautiful people who helped with "Hanging of the Greens". Hannah, Nathan, Alyssa and Jolene Kilmer, Marian Keller, Barbara Friedl, Anna and Gary Born, Bruce and Lorraine Wick, Karen and Vern Ferch, Patrice Waters, Lucille Youngberg, Claire Voshell, Bruce and Mary Jane Stauffer, Janet Welch, Bob Hunter, Bob Stephan. Praising God for you and your contribution to the joy of worshiping our Savior, Jesus Christ. The altar nativity scene was provided by Marlys Garness.

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**THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE...**

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12/02/2018 (Sun.) First Sunday of Advent  
Birthday Sunday  
9:30 a.m. - Worship Service with Communion  
10:00 a.m. - Sunday School  
10:30 - 11:30 a.m. - Fellowship

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12/03/2018 (Mon.) **Administrative Assistant Out of the Office**  
10:30 a.m. - Hospitality Meeting (\*LV Room)  
1:00 - 3:00 p.m. - Monday Study Club (\*\*FH)  
3:00-4:30 p.m.-Conversation, Bible & Friends (\*LV Room)  
7:00 p.m. - SPRC Meeting (\*LV Room)

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12/05/2018 (Wed.) 7:00 p.m. - Choir Practice

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12/07/2018 (Fri.) **Administrative Assistant Out of the Office**

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12/09/2018 (Sun.) Second Sunday of Advent  
9:30 a.m. - Worship Service  
10:00 a.m. - Sunday School  
10:30 - 11:30 a.m. - Fellowship (Nativity Set Display)

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\*Lakeview Room \*\*Fellowship Hall