

FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The Third Sunday of Advent

The Joy Candle

December 14th, 2014~9:30 a.m.

ENTRANCE

*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

*CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP... "Lord, Listen To Your Children Praying"
...TFWS No. 2193

PASSING OF THE PEACE

THE LIGHTING OF THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE: JOY

"The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing " (Isaiah 35: 1-2a, NRSV). "Joy to the World" is a beloved carol written in the early 1700s by Isaac Watts. It captures the enthusiasm we feel when announcing to the world the joy of our Messiah. The first verse speaks to this joy, "Joy to the world! The Lord is come; let earth receive her King. Let every heart prepare Him room, and heaven and nature sing." As we light the third candle of Advent, let us carry the joy of our redemption into the world that the people may catch the Spirit.

(Light two blue candles and one pink candle.)

HYMN OF CELEBRATION.....“Joy To The World”... Vs. 1...UMH No. 246

OPENING PRAYER

Let us Pray.

Lord of Joy we await your coming with great expectation. Our lives are marked by joy even when our circumstance might prove to the contrary. May we bring joy to every heart this Advent season.

Amen.

THE VISITOR

SCENE ONE

NARRATOR: So, welcome! Welcome friends and family and special guests
...welcome and Merry Christmas!

CONGREGATION: MERRY CHRISTMAS

NARRATOR: Who comes to visit us at Christmas?

CONGREGATION: (Responses)

NARRATOR: Wait did you hear something?... or someone? Who could it be?

CONGREGATION: : (Response)

SCENE TWO

NARRATOR: The Jewish people prayed and looked for the king Messiah that God would send to deliver them from oppression and suffering.

CONGREGATION:.....”O Come, O Come Emmanuel”...UMH No. 211

NARRATOR: The Angel Told Mary that God had chosen her to be the mother of His Son, the long awaited Messiah.

CHOIR: "To a Maiden Meek and Mild"

CHOIR: "Joseph Dearest, Joseph Mine"

SCENE THREE: THE JOURNEY

NARRATOR: ...and led Mary sitting on the donkey to a stable behind the inn to rest for them night.

CONGREGATION:.....“Once in Royal David's City”...UMH No. 250

SCENE FOUR: THE STABLE

NARRATOR: The night was surprisingly quiet and peaceful. Joseph looked up at the twinkling stars in the dark sky.

CONGREGATION:.....“Silent Night, Holy Night” ...UMH No. 239

NARRATOR: Even the animals seemed to know this was no ordinary baby.

CONGREGATION:....“The Friendly Beasts”UMH No. 227

CHOIR: “A Star That Shines For Us All”

SCENE FIVE: THE BABY

NARRATOR: They found Mary and Joseph and baby Jesus, lying in a manger.

CONGREGATION:.....“Away in A Manger” ...UMH No. 217

SCENE SIX: THE MAGI

NARRATOR: They were drawn by the great light too, and set out to discover more about it.

CONGREGATION:.....“We Three Kings” ...UMH No. 254

NARRATOR: How about singing one last carol together, shall we!

CONGREGATION:.....“Go, Tell It on the Mountain” ...UMH No. 251

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

*SONG OF THANKSGIVING....."Give Thanks" ...TFWS No. 2036

THANKSGIVING FOR GOD’S GIFTS

* CLOSING HYMN..... “Joy to the World” ...vs.2-4...UMH No. 246

SENDING FORTH.....

May you be filled with the wonder of Mary, the obedience of Joseph, the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the determination of the magi, and the peace of the Christ child. May almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever. Amen

EXIT MUSIC

REMEMBER OUR CHURCH & MILITARY 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:



Colony Court Memory & Care Suites: Ann Swenson, Rosalind Peterson, Gerri Peterson

Colony Court: Millie Groh, Ardella Draheim, Nina Youngberg, Leona Quast

Lakeshore Inn: Florence Gutknecht, Hazel Henkensiefken, Don Lohse

Latham Place: Liz Corchran

Morrow Home, Sparta, WI: Marlene Rietfort

Oaklawn Health Care Center: Jim Keller

Tower Light, St. Louis Park: Darlene Lynch

Those who also need our prayers: Willie Mahler

Prayer Requests from Sunday Worship: Rodger and Vada Dahnert, Bruce and Deb Hering, Leona Quast, Jim Barber, Dave and Joann Eggness, Kookie Kukacka, Deloris Asmus, Peter Fog, Jim Keller

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Many **thanks** to my church family for your cards, calls, and many kindnesses during my recuperation. You brightened my days and encouraged my heart. I am thankful for healing, health and you!

In His Love,

Patrice Waters

UMW Ruth Circle will **not meet** this month.

For your information: We have hand sanitizer in the inner and outer narthex. Thank you.

We are **coordinating the Christmas Dinner** at the **Senior Center**. We are looking for volunteers to help serve and transport meals to shut-ins that request them and for those who can help set up on December 23rd. Please sign up in the Narthex or call the office if you are interested in serving.

Sherry Scholljegerdes will give a presentation on her trip to Haiti during Fellowship on Sunday, January 4th.

The following is the Conversation, Bible & Friends schedule during the holiday season:

- December 16 - Meet in the Lakeview Room
- December 23 - No meeting.
- December 30 - No meeting.
- January 6 - We will meet at Ardella Draheim's home. We will be using the new 2015 Disciplines Devotions book at this meeting.

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE...

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- 12/14/2014 (Sun.) 9:00 a.m. -Blood Pressure Check
9:30-10:30 a.m. - "The Visitor-a Christmas Special"
*Sunday School (Ages 4 years - 6th grade)
10:30-11:30 a.m. -Fellowship
1:30-3:30 p.m. -Christmas Piano Recital (FH)
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- 12/15/2014 (Mon.) 10:00 a.m. -Newsletter Deadline
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- 12/16/2014 (Tues.) 12:00-2:00 p.m. -UMW Mary Circle
3:30-5:00 p.m. -Conversation, Bible and Friends (*LV)
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- 12/17/2014 (Wed.) 10:00 a.m. -2:00 p.m.-Some Time Away (**FH)
3:00-4:00 p.m. -UMW Elizabeth Circle
3:15-4:15 p.m. -Lake Shore Video
6:30-8:00 p.m. Youth Group @ the Parsonage
7:00 p.m. -Choir Practice
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- 12/18/2014 (Thur.) 10:30 a.m. -2:00 p.m. -Hansel and Gretel Program
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- 12/19/2014 (Fri.) 10:30 a.m. -2:00 p.m. -Hansel and Gretel Program
5:00-7:00 p.m. -Girl Scouts (Kilmer)
6:30-8:00 p.m. -Set up for Food at Faith
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- 12/20/2014 (Sat.) Food @ Faith
7:00 a.m. -10:00 a.m. -Food Truck and Set up
10:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m. -Waseca Food Distribution
12:00-1:00 p.m. -Food Program Clean-up
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- 12/21/2014 (Sun.) 9:30-10:30 a.m. - Worship Service-
"The Journey to Bethlehem"
*Sunday School (Ages 4 years - 6th grade)
10:30-11:30 a.m. -Fellowship
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- 12/24/2014 (Wed.) **4:30 P.M. - Christmas Eve Candle Light Service**
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- 12/25/2014 (Thur.) **12:00 p.m. - Christmas Community Dinner at the Senior Center**

* Lakeview Room

**Fellowship Hall