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### Special Points of Interest:

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- April Birthdays and Anniversaries included with Calendar

### Pastor Office Hours:

Tuesday, Wednesday  
& Thursday  
9:00 am - 12:30 pm

### Administrative Assistant

#### Office Hours:

Monday, Wednesday  
& Thursday:  
9:30 am - 1:00 pm



# Faith Messenger

**APRIL**

*Faith United Methodist Church*  
*"Engage, Equip, and Empower!"*

**Volume 2025**  
**Issue 3**

## From the Pastor's Desk

The main message in Ecclesiastes chapter 2 is about living a life focused on "I." The chapter often uses words like "my heart," "my flesh," "my work," "my wisdom," "my eyes," and "my efforts." It talks about a life centered on personal wants, comfort, and achievements. At first, pursuing personal pleasures and success might feel satisfying, but in the end, it doesn't bring true meaning or lasting happiness.

True joy and happiness come not from living for yourself, but from living for others, and most importantly, living for God. God is the real owner of our lives, and understanding why we live and what our purpose is, is important. Lent is a time to deny ourselves, shift the focus from "I," and put God in the center. It's a time to let go of living for our personal desires and instead, put on the life of God.

In prayer, we recognize our weaknesses and mistakes, ask for God's forgiveness, and seek the strength to follow His call. We should remember that faith is not about being passive, but about following God wholeheartedly, even when it's hard.

This passage also reminds us that, no matter how the world might treat our faith as outdated or irrelevant, we are still God's children, and we are blessed to be a channel of His blessings. Like Thomas' statement in John 11:16, we should be willing to follow Jesus, even when it means sacrifice. The challenge is to change our thinking from "God for me" to "I for God."

With Love and Blessings,

Pastor Dong Hun Shin

## Prayer Requests

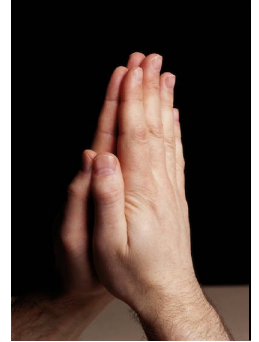
**Remember our church members & friends who are less mobile and are unable to join us as often as they would like, including:**

**Colony Court:** Margaret Dahnert

**Lakeshore Inn:** Peggy Deno, Sandy Voshell

**Latham Place:** Joe Tollefson, Wally Ruedy

**Prayer Requests from Sunday Worship:** Sue Baldini, Tim Dahnert, Ron Dahnert, Kathy Dahnert Johnson, Gail Sauer, Les Wells, Margaret Dahnert, Dennis Dahnert, Anna Born, Sherry Scholljegerdes, Sandy Voshell, Bob Larson, Stuart Kuyper, the Youngberg family, the Ukraine, the Middle East, health care workers, first responders, those who battle cancer, chronic illness and pain.



## Administrative Assistant Hours

Stacy's hours are typically Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 9:30 am to 1:00 pm. Days or hours are subject to change at times. It is best to call ahead if you need to visit the office.

## Thank You

Thank you to all of our Faith Church friends for all of your prayers, cards and visits. I am getting very good care at Lakeshore and Clair keeps me up-to-date on all of the news.

Love to everyone!

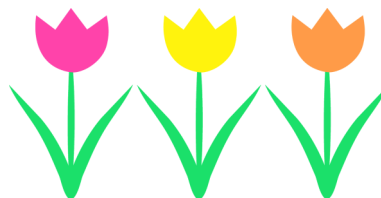
Sandy Voshell

## Faith Gardens

For the past several years, Clair and Sandy Voshell have faithfully tended to the flower gardens at Faith UMC keeping our grounds looking beautiful. At this time, they are unable to continue this task. We need some volunteers to assist with the gardens. This could be done by multiple volunteers, maybe a few different people who could split up the duties tending to different gardens. Clair will be willing to meet with you to explain what needs to be done.

Do you have a green thumb, enjoy flowers, or just simply enjoy being outdoors? Please consider helping with the gardens to keep our grounds looking beautiful. Contact the church office or Clair Voshell if you would like to do this.

A big "THANK YOU" to Clair and Sandy for all of their dedication and hard work on the gardens these last several years!



### Faith's Blessing Box

We have seen increased use of our blessing box and continue to replenish the box as needed.

Recently, a cash donation for the blessing box was brought to the church office by an anonymous donor from our community.

We appreciate and are grateful for all food and cash donations for the blessing box. Your donations help us to keep this ministry going. Food donations can be placed in the donation box in the narthex or brought into the church office during office hours. Cash donations can be mailed or brought to the church with a notation that they are for the blessing box. Thank you for your donations!

Suggested food items at this time are pouched meat (chicken, pork, tuna), ramen noodles, instant mashed potatoes, rice (plain and flavored pouches or boxes), pasta, oatmeal, cold cereal. Once temperatures stay above freezing, we will put out canned goods again.

**All Blessing Box items must be: shelf-stable (non-perishable), sealed and not past expiration date, able to withstand hot temperatures during the summer months, and able to withstand cold temperatures in the winter months (e.g. pouched meat instead of canned meat). Please no glass jars.**

### We are the Hands and Feet of Christ

Faith Church is here for all from birth to death. These words are put into action when we serve family and friends refreshments following a loved one's funeral. This is a gift of time for family and friends to gather, honor and share remembrances of their loved one.

We need volunteers (men and women) for this gift of love. Volunteer opportunities include making phone calls, serving food, making coffee, clearing tables and baking cakes. Food is catered and paper products are used. Generally, about two hours of time is involved.

Please consider adding your name to the funeral volunteer list by contacting the church office or calling Mary Stauffer 507 213 4765.

Many hands make light work.

***This article was printed in last month's newsletter. We are still looking for funeral volunteers. Even if you have assisted with funerals in the past and assume that you are still on the list, please contact the church office or Mary Stauffer to confirm that you'd still like to be on the volunteer list. We'd like to have an updated list of names and current phone numbers.***

### Worship Team

We are still looking for volunteers to serve on a Worship Team. This team would meet periodically with Pastor Dong to assist him in exploring ideas to enhance our worship services and share ideas for special worship services. If you have some ideas and would like to be part of this team, please contact the church office or let a Leadership Team member know.

Once we have enough volunteers for the Worship Team, it will be determined when and how often to meet.

## Ruth Circle

Ruth circle will be holding their April meeting at Colony Court. It will be held on Tuesday, April 8th at 1:00. We are looking forward to visiting with Margaret D.

## Holy Week

With Easter soon approaching we would like to share our plans/schedule for Holy Week.

Thursday, April 17 - 7:00pm Holy Thursday worship service. We will have a hand washing ceremony and communion during this service.

Friday, April 18 - 7:00pm Good Friday worship service

Easter Sunday, April 20

7:00am - Sunrise Service

7:30am - Easter Breakfast in the Fellowship Hall (serving scrambled eggs, fresh warm cinnamon rolls with frosting and butter, orange juice, milk, and coffee)

9:30am - Easter Celebration worship service

All are welcome to worship with us.

## A Little Humor

I once asked my third grade Sunday school class to stand up and share, in just one sentence, "What Easter means to me" Some of the answers were sweet and some poignant, however, this is the one I remember the most:

"Egg salad sandwiches for the entire week."



## Day Brighteners

We were tired of the winter days...cold, dreary, windy, gloomy...As March days came closer, someone had the bright idea to bring on some sunshine; at least, figuratively speaking. 'Why don't we just have a party?' Why indeed. We'll invite our Faith friends we haven't seen in ages; we'll have a 'Hello to Spring' theme and decorate the Fellowship Hall accordingly, with pretty flowers in pastel colors (thank you, Nancy Tollefson)...we'll serve coffee-cakes (four women volunteered to bake — thanks, ladies!) and coffee, tea, juice. Keep it simple but nice. Pretty floral invitations were given or mailed to about sixty (yes 60) of our dear Christian sisters...and then we just had to wait for the day and anticipate the laughter and conversation. On THE day, yup, it was cold and windy but our dining room at Faith was alive with everything we had hoped for...dear friends in Christ, hugs, familiar faces, delicious and simple refreshments, laughter — lots of that!! Roberta supplied us with some very funny mini-stories and every woman in attendance willingly and briefly told us about one thing — just one thing—good that happened in their lives in the previous 24 hours. Easy, comfortable, no pressure — jut a bunch of friends re-uniting. OK, was there a slight ulterior motive in all of this? Truthfully, yes. What we desired for all of us Faith U M women was to be reminded of the gift of fellowship we have. We love and care about each other. Those bonds are holy, in my opinion...We will have a Women's Group, maybe just called Faith Friends, and we will serve the LORD in any way that He leads; we will continue to get together as we did on March 15 and we will expect you to accept the invitation also...the treats are good and the fellowship is even better. We need each other, girls...life can be very tough sometimes; it can also be incredibly wonderful...with plenty of stuff in between. Watch the church's Monthly News for the next gathering of Faith Friends. (And it never hurts to invite another friend.)

—Karen Ferch

## Springtime Sandwich Luncheon

The good news: we at Faith Church are planning to again host our Springtime Sandwich Luncheon. Details will be forthcoming, but we all need to be aware that this event takes a large amount of work/people-power. The date is set as in the past — **Wednesday, April 23** (following Easter Sunday). Sign-up sheets will soon be available; please consider how you can be a part of this very important way to reach out to our community. It is so true that many hands make light work. We would also appreciate cash donations that will be used to purchase ingredients. Thanks!



Waseca Ministerial  
Association offers:

**Waseca Community  
Easter Dinner**  
*Dine in, Drive thru  
Or Delivery*

**Sunday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025  
11:30 am – 1:00 pm**

(Limit 4 meals per household)

**\*Free will Offering\***



**Sign-up by Monday, April 14<sup>th</sup>** by calling the Church Office  
at St. Paul Lutheran Church @ **835-2647** or the Waseca  
Senior Center @ **835-4552**.

**Menu:**

Ham, Au gratin Potatoes, Salad, Buns, Vegetable and  
Dessert.

**Hosted by:**

St. Paul Lutheran Church  
314 - 4<sup>th</sup> Ave NE  
Waseca, MN 56093  
[www.stpaulwaseca.org](http://www.stpaulwaseca.org)



## **A Prayer for our Church**

Come Holy Spirit, fill our voices with praise, so that all we speak will glorify you.

Come Holy Spirit, give us such faith that we will go wherever you ask us to go.

Come Holy Spirit, help us to be a friend like Jesus.

Come Holy Spirit, warm our hearts, so that as we love our community, they see you.

In the name of Jesus, our Redeemer, we pray. Amen.

## **Faith UMC Mission Statement**

Faith United Methodist Church Serves God through  
Worship, Faith, Friendship, Outreach

### **Leadership Team**

Members of the Faith United Methodist Church Leadership Team:

Rev. Dong Hun Shin, Pastor

Dave Baldini, Chair

Clair Voshell, Trustees

Jarod True, Finances, Trustee Treasurer & SPRC

Stacy True, Recording Secretary

Neil Fruechte

Mary Jane Stauffer

Karen Ferch

Mike Morrissey

Linda Griffin

Les Wells

Janet Welch

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact one of the members.

**\*\*Copies of approved Leadership Team minutes can be found on the shelf by the bulletin board in the narthex.**

**\*\*Copies of church financial statements can be reviewed by church members in the office upon request.**



Faith United Methodist Church

*"Engage, Equip, and Empower"*

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Waseca, MN  
56093

**Change Service Requested**

**Come Worship with Us**  
We have room.

**MONTHLY MEET-UPS:**

**Elizabeth Circle**

Elizabeth Circle will meet on **Wednesday,  
April 16** at **2:30** in the Gathering Room.

**Ruth Circle**

Ruth Circle will meet on **Tuesday, April 8** at  
**1:00** at Colony Court.