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Pastor Office Hours:

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

Administrative
Assistant

Office Hours:

Monday, Wednesday
& Thursday:
9:30 am - 12:30 pm



Faith Messenger

AUGUST

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

Volume 2025
Issue 7

From the Pastor's Desk

While my wife, DJ and I were visiting Korea recently, we received our first full medical check-up in several years. A week later, we got the results. The doctor found something unusual in my wife's thyroid and recommended an ultrasound. After further tests at a university hospital, we received difficult news: it was thyroid cancer, and she needed surgery.

Normally, patients in South Korea wait more than three months for this type of surgery. But by God's grace, the doctor kindly made special time in his schedule when he heard we were visiting from the United States. Just one week later, my wife had surgery.

Thanks be to God, the surgery went well. Only half of her thyroid had to be removed, and her hormone levels remained normal. She does not need to take medication or radiation. It was a hard and painful time for our family—but we are deeply thankful that the cancer was found early and treated quickly.

Through this journey, we felt God's presence and the power of prayer. We want to thank the doctor, the nurses, and everyone who helped us. We especially thank all of you—our church family at Faith UMC and Korean UMC—and everyone who prayed for us. Your love, care, and prayers gave us strength and peace.

1 Thessalonians 5:18 says, "Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." And also "The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in him, and he helps me." (Psalm 28:7)

We truly believe that God was with us during this hard time. We trust that God will continue to guide and protect us all.

With a thankful heart,

Dong Hun Shin, Pastor

Prayer Requests

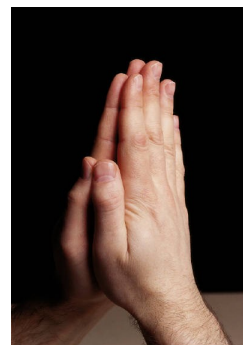
Remember our church members & friends who are less mobile and are unable to join us as often as they would like, including:

Colony Court: Margaret Dahnert

Lakeshore Inn: Peggy Deno

Latham Place: Joe Tollefson, Wally Ruedy

Prayer Requests from Sunday Worship: Sue Baldini, Kathy Dahnert Johnson, Gail Sauer, Les Wells, Margaret Dahnert, Anna Born, Sherry Scholljegerdes, Sandy Voshell, Bob Larson, Stuart Kuyper, Darla Dahnert, DJ Choi, Karen Ferch, Lona Williamson, Vada Dahnert, the Ukraine, the Middle East, health care workers, first responders, those who battle cancer, chronic illness and pain.



Administrative Assistant Hours

Stacy's summer hours are typically Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 9:30 am to 12:30 pm. Days or hours are subject to change at times. It is best to call ahead if you need to visit the office.

Church Clean-up Day

On Saturday, August 9 at 8:00AM we will have a church clean-up day. Our clean-up day in May was cold and we did not have many volunteers so there were things we were unable to complete. We want to wash the fellowship hall windows and do other needed clean-up around the church grounds and parsonage as needed. Please plan to help out. Many hands make light work!

We're Gonna Have Church...at the Fair

On the morning of the last day of the 2025 Waseca County Fair, Faith U.M. Church held a worship service—outdoors at the Free Stage. Perfect weather, a beautiful day...for singing and enjoying God's summer world.

Bob Hunter had distributed small cards inviting folks to join us in this service...many familiar faces could be seen as we gathered with a common purpose.

Jarod True gifted us with his beautiful music before and during the service. Thank you, Jarod. Pastor Dong led us in worship, praising God for bringing us together; even the animals on the grounds and in the buildings made their presence known.

Thanks to those who furnished cookies and bottles of cool water for our enjoyment.

Someone said this was the 11th Sunday service Faith Church has hosted over a span of years. Thanks be to God for this opportunity to share the Gospel.

Faith's Blessing Box Update

We continue to see use of the Blessing Box.

We would welcome donations of canned pasta (ravioli, spaghettios, etc.), canned meats (tuna, chicken), spaghetti sauce (canned or plastic jar), canned fruits and vegetables, cereal, oatmeal, peanut butter, pancake mix and syrup. We are not in need of any dry pasta due to the previous generous donation from Hy-Vee.

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!

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. Also, please check expiration dates on food donations. We do not accept expired items.



the Oak tree

A mighty wind blew, night and day.
It stole the oak tree's leaves away.
Then snapped its boughs and pulled its bark
Until the oak was tired and stark.

But still the oak tree held its ground
While other trees fell all around.
The weary wind gave up and spoke,
"How can you still be standing, Oak?"

The oak tree said, "I know that you
Can break each branch of mine in two,
Carry every leaf away,
Shake my limbs, and make me sway.

But I have roots stretched in the earth,
Growing stronger since my birth.
You'll never touch them, for you see,
They are the deepest part of me.

Until today, I wasn't sure
Of just how much I could endure.
But now I've found, with thanks to you,
I'm stronger than I ever knew.

-Johnny Ray Ryder, Jr.

Ruth Circle

Ruth circle met Tuesday, July 8, 2025. Venedie and Sophia O'Brien (Roberta's family) were guests at the meeting.

Nancy served delicious treats for everyone to enjoy and the table was decorated with Nancy's beautiful umbrella to go along with the umbrella program.

A card was sent to Les Wells to let him know we are thinking about him.

Vada wore a beautiful birthday crown while we sang Happy Birthday to her.

It was reported that Elizabeth circle sponsored a Women's Gathering on Thursday, June 26th. There were a little over 20 women there. Had coffee cake for a treat and Sherry Jones presented an interesting and fun talk on buttons.

Ruth circle will sponsor a Women's Gathering on Saturday, September 27th at 10:00. The program will be a Hat show. So mark that down on your calendar. Bring a friend and have fun.

There was a short discussion on the Fall Bazaar which is Saturday, November 1st. There will be a planning meeting scheduled soon.

Next circle meeting: 1:00 pm August 12th in the Gathering Room.

Roberta had a short presentation on 'Umbrellas'.

Devotion:

What is God's umbrella of protection?

When you put up an umbrella, it shields you from the rain. But if you choose to move out from under that umbrella during a storm, you're sure to get wet. God's commandments are like an umbrella. As long as you stay under the umbrella of God's commands, you'll be shielded from many consequences.

I want to share a short story about faith written by Laverne W. Hall.

The fields were parched and brown from lack of rain, and the crops lay wilting from thirst. People were anxious and irritable as they searched the sky for any sign of relief. Days turned into weeks. No rain came.

The ministers of the local churches called for an hour of prayer on the town square the following Saturday. They requested that everyone bring an object of faith for inspiration.

At high noon on the appointed Saturday the townspeople showed up in masses, filling the square with anxious faces and hopeful hearts. The ministers were touched to see the variety of objects clutched in prayerful hands --Bibles, crosses, and rosaries were only a few of their faith symbols.

When the hour ended, as if on magical command, a soft rain began to fall. Cheers swept the crowd as they held their treasured objects high in gratitude and praise. From the middle of the crowd, one faith symbol seemed to overshadow all the others; A small 9-year-old child had brought an umbrella.

I think this story reminds us of the kind of faith that God wants us to have. He wants us to have a faith that doesn't just remain in our heads but also extends to our hearts and hands.

There is a vast difference between just saying that we believe something and actually living like we believe it.

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When we have faith our attitudes and actions are affected. It's not really faith if we don't put it into practice. We are reminded of this in James 2:26, *A person's body without their spirit is dead. In the same way, faith without good deeds is dead.*

We need to put what God says into practice. The reason this story about the boy and the umbrella is so encouraging is because it illustrates faith in action. The boy believed that God would come through. The symbol of his faith was the umbrella because he was expecting rain.

Here's my challenge for you. Live like you expect God to follow through on His promises. Put your faith into practice daily.

Prayer:

Dear heavenly Father, thank You for protecting us, our children, and our grandchildren.

Thank You for being an Umbrella, a covering from life's storms. Protect from all harm and danger, and help to trust in Your faithful presence, even when life is challenging."

We thank you for the umbrellas you have provided in our lives. As the umbrella shelters us from the rain, may your love and grace shield us from the storms of life.

"With umbrella up, or upside down, we are ready to receive the downpour of Your blessings. Amen.

Vaneide and Sophia shared some things about the Philippines and then Sophia, Roberta's granddaughter did a presentation: 'How the Philippines was formed'

She read the presentation she wrote. I wrote what she read. I was going to correct her misspellings on her paper but her parents said in kindergarten they write as they sound it out. They learn to spell it correctly in the first grade

'Once there was a giant named Phillip. He and his friend played hide and seek. Phillip could not hide. He was too big so he made himself look like an island.

1.2.3.4.5.6.7.8.9. Where are you? His friend was looking everywhere but he could not find Phillip so he said give up, you win. But Phillip fell asleep so his friend called the adults to help. They shouted Phillip Pina. When people heard them calling Phillips name they thought the word Philippines was beautiful so they decided to call the island Philippines. The end'.

Elizabeth Circle

Elizabeth Circle Meeting. Weds. July 16, 2025. 2:30 PM

Six women met at Lakeshore Rehab Center in a conference room, with Sandy Voshell serving as hostess. A variety of delicious cookies and coffee along with great conversation began the meeting...catching up with each other's lives is as much a part of our meetings as is the lesson we hear.

Conversation centered around money our Unit/Circles have in our treasury, and possible local recipients/organizations. Future plans for event opportunities such as the Fall Bazaar are pending—a great deal of discussion must take place prior to making decisions.

Karen read a chapter about Job's wife from a book entitled "Old Testament Stories From the Back Side", which presents common Biblical stories from a whole different perspective than what we're used to. Job's wife (who never had her name mentioned in the Bible) presumably suffered everything Job did, with the exception of the terrible skin sores. Like her husband, 'Mrs. Job' lost her wealth and position, her husband's health, and worst of all, her children. As Job's support system, she virtually lost her own life. The author raised the question 'Who had it worse: Job or his wife?' Writer and Poet John Milton wrote the following-
'God does not need

Either man's work or his own gifts. Who best
Bear His mild yoke, they serve Him best. His state
Is kingly; thousands at His bidding speed,
And post o'er land and ocean without rest;
They also serve who only stand and wait.'

The next meeting of Elizabeth Circle is set for Wednesday August 20 at 2:30 in the Gathering Room at Faith Church. As always, there is room at the table ...we would love to have the 'problem' of needing to bring in more chairs!

-Karen Ferch, Secretary

Buttons, Buttons

The Faith United Methodist church women and friends met in the fellowship room at 10AM on Thursday, June 25, 2025. Twenty-five ladies were present.

Karen Ferch welcomed everyone. The cloth hankies on the tables were a gift from Karen's sister, Jeanie. We had delicious desserts - muffins and bars and coffee and water.

Our guest speaker was Sherry Jones. She has been collecting buttons for 40 years. She brought many buttons. Buttons come in many shapes, many sizes, and have many holes. There are mussel clam shell buttons found along the rivers. There are also ocean Abalone shells. Every button has a history and a story to tell us.

There were 60 button factories at one time. Pearl buttons are expensive. Muscatine, Iowa is the button capital of the world. There is a button museum there. There are also plastic and polyester shell buttons with many colors. Buttons are pretty. They add designs. You can craft with buttons. Don't clean your buttons. Some buttons are decorated and carved. You can make picture frames with buttons and can sew buttons on shirts. There are watch crystal buttons.

We had a very educational day,

Linda Griffin

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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56093

Change Service Requested

Come Worship with Us
We have room.

MONTHLY MEET-UPS:

Elizabeth Circle

Elizabeth Circle will meet on **Wednesday, August 20 at 2:30** in the Gathering Room.

Ruth Circle

Ruth Circle will meet on **Tuesday, August 12 at 1:00** in the Gathering Room.