Faith United Methodist Church

Faith MESSENGER

Volume 2012 Issue 8

August 2012

Special Points of Interest:

- August Calendar with Birthdays & Anniversaries
- Faith VBS Operation
 Overboard! August 6-9.
- Food @ FaithAugust 18.
- SEPTEMBER
 Newsletter
 Article &
 Calendar
 Reservation
 deadline—
 August 21.

The Servant Leader

Then the mother of the sons of Zebedee came up to him with her sons, and kneeling before him she asked him for something. And he said to her, "What do you want?" She said to him, "Say that these two sons of mine are to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your kingdom." Jesus answered, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I am to drink?" They said to him, "We are able." He said to them, "You will drink my cup, but to sit at my right hand and at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared by my Father." And when the ten heard it, they were indignant at the two brothers. But Jesus called them to him and said. "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. It shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be your slave, even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." (Matthew 20:20-28 ESV)

The kingdom of God is not like the kingdom of the world around us, it is an upside down kingdom where the first are last and the last are first. A bottom up kingdom where the greatest in the kingdom are not the ones who exercise the greatest power over others but, the ones who are willing to be the servant of all. Jesus the Son of God, our Lord, our Savior, the one we worship, defined Himself as a servant who would give His life "as a ransom for many."

If Jesus came to serve others, we who are called by His name, who claim Him as Lord, are called to be like Him; to imitate Him in all we do. We are called not to be above others, rather to serve one another.

Starting September 2nd and continuing through October we will explore the Character of a Servant and discover what it means to be a servant of Jesus, someone who willingly gives of themselves to serve others.

September 2 - The Heart of a Servant

<u>September 9</u>⁻A Servant Exercises Self-control

<u>September 16</u> A Servant is a Man or Woman of Integrity

<u>September 23</u> A Servant Cultivates Forgiving Spirit

<u>September 30</u>[—]A Servant Exercises A Thankful Spirit

(SERVANT Continued on Page 2...)

(... SERVANT Continued from Page 1)

October 7⁻A Servant Acts and Speaks Wisely

October 14⁻A Servant Pursues Excellence
October 21⁻The Perils of Servant-hood
October 28⁻The Rewards of Servant-hood

Servant-hood is hard and that requires our time, our effort and our dependence on the Holy Spirit. Servants aren't always thanked. Servants seek only one reward and that is to have the Lord they serve,

Jesus Christ, look at their lives and what they have done and say, "Well done thou good and faithful servant enter into the joy of your Master."

Join me on the journey of servanthood where we move from serving ourselves to serving others and in so doing we will become more like Jesus who came to serve and not be served.

~~ Pastor Victor Waters

SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS; YOUR VISION

Join us at the
Waseca Senior &
Caregiver EXPO

August 15, 2012

Waseca Jr. High

10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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Stop by and see Faith in Action. Our booth is focusing on food portion size and variety. As usual, expect a surprise!

As we continue the visioning process, please share your ideas about our Vision Statement and the direction you would like to see Faith UMC take.

The next Vision Team meeting is scheduled for <u>Tuesday</u>, <u>August 14 at 7 p.m.</u>

In the <u>Upper Room</u>. All are invited to attend and/or share your ideas beforehand.

Help us write a Christ-centered, short, memorable and truthful statement defining who we are and why we are here.

- What is our purpose?
  - Why is Faith UMC here?
  - What is most important about our existence and work in the community?

- What are the top 3 things you feel we should focus upon?
- Why are you here?



This statement will help inform our future decision making and budgetary prioritizing. It will help us focus

and become stronger; we are working to ensure our future! Please share your thoughts now, while we are working on these questions. We want to know what's on your mind.

Talk to someone who will be attending the meeting—or write a note for us to share with the Team at the next meeting.

Now

is the

time!



Faith Messenger



#### **BISHOP OUGH TO FOLLOW BISHOP DYCK**

Bishop Bruce Ough will become bishop of the Minnesota Annual Conference and the Dakotas Annual Conference beginning Sept. 1, 2012.

The North Central Jurisdictional Episcopacy Com-

mittee announced this and other bishop assignments in the 11-conference jurisdiction on July 19 in Akron, Ohio. They assigned Bishop Ough, who most recently oversaw the West Ohio Annual Conference, to the new Dakotas-

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Minnesota Episcopal Area. The conferences are not merging.

"Bishop Ough and his wife Charlene will be a great addition to the Minnesota Annual Conference," said Judy Zabel, member of the North Central Jurisdiction Episcopacy Committee. "Bishop Ough has a proven track record of exemplary leadership. He has a heart for Jesus Christ, for sharing good news, and addressing issues of poverty. He is mission-minded and will lead by example."

Bishop Ough was consecrated in 2000. As bishop he has served in the Ohio West Episcopal Area for three terms.

Bishops are assigned for four-year terms. They may be assigned to the same area for a second consecutive term, and in rare cases may be assigned to the same area for three consecutive terms.

General Conference 2008 reduced the number of bishops per United States jurisdiction by one, effective 2012. The North Central College of Bishops determined in 2010 that the

Dakotas and Minnesota, while remaining separate conferences, would share a bishop as one episcopal area. The West Michigan and Detroit Conferences currently share a bishop as separate conferences in one episcopal area.

The primary office for the Dakotas-Minnesota Area will be in Minneapolis, for its proximity to the international airport. A transition team of representatives from both conferences have been meeting to plan how the conferences will effectively share a bishop.

Rev. Cindy Gregorson (director of ministries for Minnesota Conference) and Greg Kroger (Bishop's Assistant for Connectional Ministries for the Dakotas Conference) have been working together on the new bishop's schedule for his first twelve months in the area. Opportunities to welcome the new bishop will be announced.

The bishop assignments for the quadrennium beginning Sept. 1, 2012: Sally Dyck: Northern Illinois Episcopal Area; Michael Coyner: Indiana Episcopal Area; John Hopkins: Ohio East Episcopal Area; He-Soo Jung: Wisconsin Episcopal Area; Jonathan Keaton: Illinois Great Rivers Episcopal Area; Deborah Kiesey: Michigan/Detroit Episcopal Area; Bruce Ough: Dakotas/Minnesota Episcopal Area; Linda Lee: Retirement; Gregory Palmer: Ohio West Episcopal Area; and Julius Trimble: Iowa Episcopal Area.

#### **Farewell Event for Bishop Dyck**

August 11, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., Cross Winds UMC, 15051 Weaver Lake Rd., Maple Grove. Celebrate the ministry and leadership of Bishop Sally Dyck and Pastor Ken Ehrman.

#### **GREAT VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY**

The Minnesota Dental Association, in conjunction with the Minnesota Dental Foundation, will host its first Minnesota Mission of Mercy (MnMOM) event on August 17-18, 2012, in Mankato, MN at the Verizon Wireless Center. These events, initiated in 2000 and currently active in 18 states, are projects which provide free dental care to anyone who is unable to access care.

A large, temporary dental clinic is erected to provide treatment over a two-day period in areas of the state where individuals are not able to easily access oral health care. It provides dental treatment to children and adults in need, regardless of their ability to pay.

For more information on this cause go to: <a href="http://www.mndental.org/public\_home/about\_us/mnmom/">http://www.mndental.org/public\_home/about\_us/mnmom/</a>. Volunteers are needed to help make this event possible, please pass on the word to anyone who may be willing to help.

No dental experience is necessary to volunteer and they need hundreds of volunteers over

the two-day event, plus a day for set-up and another for tear-down. Send an e-mail to: MnMOM.reg1@yahoo.com or visit the website above to register or get more information.

#### ALSO...

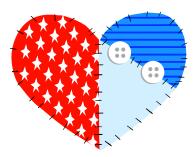
Senior Linkage Line has been given permission to have a booth in the lobby to provide outreach to the event participants, they estimate that a good percentage of the people will be seniors. In order to do this outreach event, they will need the help of our volunteers.

As stated above, the event is Friday August 17th and Saturday August 18th. The hours will be 7am to 5pm with shifts every two hours:

Friday August 17th: 7am – 9am, 9am – 11am, 11am – 1pm, 1pm – 3pm, 3pm – 5pm

Saturday August 18th: 7am – 9am, 9am – 11am, 11am – 1pm, 1pm – 3pm, 3pm – 5pm

Please let me know if you can help with this event and the shift(s) you are available for the Senior Linkage Line Booth: Contact Sarah Reiman—sarahr@rndc.org or Senior LinkAge Line at 1-800-333-2433, x 82026.



## **Stitchers for Missions**

Our August 10th meeting will be at Sherry Scholljegerdes' home. We will be finishing up our baby quilts for Head Start and starting pillow case dresses for overseas missions. We'll start at 9:30 a.m. and have a Celebration Potluck Lunch at Noon. Plan to attend, it should be a great time!

## **Haiti Trip**

Ticket from Miami to Haiti has been purchased! With a grateful heart, I want to thank ALL of you who have donated to the Haiti Medical Mission Trip.

There is still a need for about \$400 more, for the airfare from Minneapolis to Miami. If you would like to be part of this financial support, make your check out to Faith UMC, Haiti Trip. If you will pray for a safe and successful trip, I know it will be heard!

Peace ~~ Sherry Scholljegerdes

Faith Messenger

### **NURSES NOTES—The Gratitude Attitude**

Gratitude. Thankfulness. Gratefulness. Appreciation. According to Wikipedia, all are a feeling, emotion or attitude in acknowledgment of a benefit that one has received or will receive. The following is an article by Pastor Rubel Shelby, written for Heartlight Magazine in November 2001. I wanted to share it with you... [NOTE: This article is centered around Thanksgiving, which is why it references Thursday.]

"The late A.W. Tozer once made this claim: "A thankful heart cannot be cynical." I suspect he is right. Living in a time so cynical as our own, it just may be that the doleful spirit of many — even in a time of great prosperity and blessing — has come about because of our failure to be grateful.

So I'm devoting the entire coming week to fostering a gratitude attitude. I resolve to obey the biblical call to "Give thanks in all circumstances." (1Thess. 5:18) and I'll not do it just on Thursday either, but all week long.

Just to be clear about the matter, I'm going to give thanks to God. I haven't created my own good fortune. Although I owe a lot to my family, even they are not the ultimate source of my blessings. Every good gift—whether delivered through country, church, friend, or family—is finally traceable to God's generosity.

Maybe you've heard the apocryphal story of the fifth-grader who, when asked to tell the origin of Thanksgiving Day in America, gave this politically sensitive account: "The Pilgrims came here seeking freedom of you-know-what. So,

when they arrived, they gave thanks to you-know-who. Because of them, we can now worship without fear each Sunday at you-know-where."

When you sit down with the people you love Thursday, give thanks in a specific

rather than generic way. Don't simply acknowledge the vague, warmfuzzies of a national holiday. Articulate your personal prayers of gratitude to God for his material gifts, for the important people he has put in your life, for his strength in your difficult times, for his Spirit-presence in your Christian life, and—above all—for the salvation he has provided through the Lord Jesus Christ.

I saw a cartoon years ago that featured a bewildered-looking fellow sitting at a Thanksgiving table loaded down with turkey, dressing, hot rolls and all the trimmings. The caption read: "Alvin the atheist realized he was at his lowest point, for he felt grateful but had no one to thank." A believer doesn't have that problem.

So why not join with me in the resolve I shared with you earlier? In getting ready for Thursday, let's live a gratitude attitude for the entire week. Co-workers today, family tonight, people who assist you at the post office or grocery, anyone who blesses your life—thank them sincerely for things that make your life better.

Who knows? Thanksgiving could become a way of life.

(Posted: 11/17/2001 at URL: http://www.heartlight.org/articles/200111/20011117\_attitude.html)

With this in mind, contemplate these Bible verses:

- Acts 24:3
- Psalms 118:24
- Romans 8:28

Wishing you a grateful heart and the peace it brings.

Shalom ~~ Sherry Scholljegerdes, RN
Your Parish Nurse

Circles are one of

the small group
opportunities
available at Faith
where Bible
Study, Devotions

and Prayer are

shared.

## Elizabeth Circle

Elizabeth Circle will NOT meet in August. Watch for our next meeting in September! Have a great summer:)

## Mary Circle

Mary Circle will NOT meet in August. Have a safe summer!



## Rahab Circle

Rahab Circle will NOT meet through the summer. We'll get together again in September.

## Ruth Circle

Ruth Circle will not meet in August; however, they are serving for the Unit Meeting on August 20.

## School of Christian Mission — July 2012



Weekday: Mary Jane Stauffer, Sherry Scholljegerdes, Theresa Riecke, Amanda & Char Frankenberry



Weekend: Char Frankenberry, Roberta Walker, Edy Barber & Theresa Riecke

Faith Messenger

#### **UMW NEWS**

<u>UMW Unit meeting</u> will be held Monday, August 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm. We will be discussing Guest Night and the Fall Bazaar. The program will be on Poverty. The speaker is from the Head Start program for which some of the church ladies are making quilts. It should be very interesting.

<u>Jurisdiction</u> was held in Des Moines, Iowa June 19-20 and was attended by some Faith UMW members. There will be a report at the next UMW Unit Meeting.

<u>School of Christian Mission</u> was held last week July 17-22 at St Johns and was attended by Faith UMW members. Those who attended will report on the event at the next UMW Meeting.

Guest Night will be Thursday, October 18<sup>th</sup>. The Flemming Fold, an exciting and versatile family music group from Faribault will be the entertainment. They are a truly unique and uplifting group. Mark your calendars and watch for more information on this group as the date approaches.

Catherine Ritch Guess was scheduled to be our guest speaker but because of family reasons had to reschedule. We have her on our next year calendar.

The purpose of the United Methodist Women, a global community of women, is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ, to develop a creative supportive fellowship, and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.



## CORN STOCK TEEN BARN DANCE

Friday, August 3, 2012 7—11 p.m.

#### **Farmamerica**

(3767— 360th Ave., Waseca)

Cost \$5

DJ: Brad Zimbrich

An event for all teens (and young adults under 21) to enjoy a night of music, fun and dancing! Pizza, nachos, popcorn & pop will be available for purchase.

#### **WASECA GARDEN CLUB GARDEN WALK**

Sunday, August 5, 2012 1 to 5 p.m.

FREE—Open to the Public (Rain or Shine)

Maps available at:
Bailey-Lewer House

(315 2nd Ave. NE, Waseca)



#### **ICE CREAM SOCIAL**

Sunday, August 19, 2012 11 a.m.—1 p.m.

#### **Evangelical United Methodist Church**

(309 6th Street NE, Waseca)

Now Handicapped Accessible!

#### Menu:

Sloppy Jo or Ham Sandwich Potato Salad or Potato Chips Baked Beans

Pie & Ice Cream

Lemonade or Coffee

Plate: \$6.00 (or ala cart)

#### **UNDERSTANDING GRIEF**

Wednesday, August 15, 2012 6:30—8 p.m.

Waseca Public Library (408 N. State St. Waseca)

There is no charge for this seminar, but pre-registration is required; please call Jeanne Atkinson at (507) 385-2989.

#### ST. JOHN LUTHERAN GUEST NIGHT

Thursday, September 13, 2012 7 p.m.

#### St. John Lutheran Church—Trinity Hall

(401—3rd Ave. NE, Waseca)

"Secrets of Survival"

Speaker: Edna Thayer

Certified Laughter Leader

Dessert and Coffee to follow

Come and hear her tell the story about a German war bride—Lydia—whose remarkable spirit helped her survive a premature birth, the Great Depression, death defying experiences in the Nazi regime, war in her home town, and life as a young mother and war bride in the strange new country of America.

Every one is welcome to come and listen!

#### **HARVEST RUN FOR HUNGER**

Saturday, September 15, 2012

All proceeds to support our local food shelves

Entry Fee (due by Aug 30 or add \$5 more):

4k Walk \$20 / 7k Run \$25



See brochure on Narthex Bulletin Board for registration form; or contact:

Ron Knutson at (507) 456-4167 or ronknutson@smig.net

www.raceberryjam.com

## Lord! Please hear our prayer...

Cedarview Care Center—Elaine Flathers

Colony Court—Rosalind Peterson

<u>Colony Court Memory Suites</u>—Anna Swenson & Jean Ferry

<u>Lake Shore Inn</u>— Elvira Blowers, Florence Gutknecht, Hazel Henkensiefken, Eleanor Jane Hutchison, Marilynn Lau, Don Lohse & Mable Long

<u>Lakeview Ranch, Dassel</u>— Raymond Pommerenke <u>Morrow Home, Sparta, WI</u>— Marlene Rietfort

Shorewood Sr. Campus, Rochester—Darlene Lynch

<u>Those who are ill or injured:</u> Peter & Verna Fog, Florence Gutknecht, Willie Mahler, Dan & Marilyn Possin, Wilda Smith, Chuck Youngberg and Nina Youngberg.

Please remember our family and friends in Military Service.

- Please pray for the family and friends of Wayne Thursdale and John "Buster" Kaupa during their time of loss.
- Please pray for our VBS program to reach out and touch young lives with the love of Jesus Christ.







## News about our Faith Family

- Please update the Church Office with your news! We love to hear from you.
- Are you travelling this summer? Please let us know! And, please don't forget to send in your offering...
- Going to College? Moving?
   Let us know where you are going and how you are doing!

#### **UMCOR Prayer Request**

## PRAYER: INTERNATIONAL AIDS CONFERENCE

Pray for the International AIDS Conference that is underway in Washington, DC, this week. Shannon Trilli, UM-COR health executive, was a part of the pre-planning session to help pave the way for the work of this meeting.

Pray also for the Diecke Clinic in Guinea, which provides for people with HIV, AIDS, and malaria; supports maternal and child health; and provides other important community health services. The clinic receives important financial support from UMCOR and the Austin United Methodist District to accomplish its work.



#### **UMCOR Updates**

#### **NEWS: THE FIRE WAS ANGRY**

Otto Braided Hair was a quarter-mile away from a towering wall of flame when suddenly the 50-mph wind changed direction, driving embers directly onto him and his volunteer fire-fighting crew. "When those embers blew over us, I got a sense that the fire was angry," he recalls.

The wildfire—which started June 26 from a lightning strike—consumed one-quarter of the 440,000-acre Northern Cheyenne reservation in Montana, destroying 23 homes and leaving hundreds of others with smoke damage.

Nearly a month after the fire, the reservation's 5,000 residents are struggling to begin their long-term recovery. In addition to families who lost their homes, many others lost vehicles, water access, fencing, and livestock.

UMCOR is helping the Northern Cheyenne people begin their recovery with an emergency grant of \$10,000 for the Yellowstone Conference. These funds will help the Native American Ministries committee at the Sheridan United Methodist Church in Wyoming as it assesses needs and plans a long-term response.

## NEWS: WESTERN WILDFIRES 'PROFOUND DISASTER' FOR MANY

UMCOR is responding to wildfires that have destroyed a growing number of homes and forced thousands of people to evacuate throughout the western US. In Colorado, Montana, New Mexico, Utah, Wyoming, and other states, churches are offering immediate care for evacuees even as they gather resources for long-term recovery.

The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) has issued \$10,000 emergency grants to the Rocky Mountain, Yellowstone,

and New Mexico annual conferences.

In New Mexico, where the Little Bear Fire destroyed or damaged at least 224 homes, the newly formed Little Bear Recovery Team has opened a center at which fire survivors can receive help. Within this ecumenical effort, United Methodists are leading a case management process under which more than 90 cases were opened on behalf of fire survivors as of early July.

Meanwhile, hot spots continue to flare up as record drought lingers over a large portion of the US. "The heat is so intense that the fires literally ignite the inside of the house," said Knuckey. "It's a profound disaster."

Help the Northern Cheyenne Indians and UMCOR continue to respond to the western US wild-fires. Please contribute to <u>US Disaster Response</u>, <u>UMCOR Advance #901670</u>.

#### **MEDIA: UMCOR'S YOUTUBE CHANNEL**

Find all of UMCOR's videos in one place on our YouTube channel. Go to <a href="https://www.YouTube.com/TheUMCOR">www.YouTube.com/TheUMCOR</a> to view UMCOR's latest video story.

#### **NEWS: SOUTH SUDAN INDEPENDENCE DAY**

In July, while the people of the United States celebrate 236 years since the signing of the Declaration of Independence, the people of South Sudan mark an independence milestone: one year.

It was on July 9, 2011, that South Sudan became an independent country, separate from Khartoum-ruled Sudan after a long, bloody war.

The fledgling nation is beset by many challenges, not least those resulting from the years of conflict, which still flare today.

The United Methodist Committee on Relief, present in South Sudan since 2006, has expanded

UMCOR Continued on Page 15...



## New Methods/New Day: Why Measure?

- It's been six months since Minnesota United Methodist churches began reporting weekly statistical data to the denomination-wide Vital Congregations project. UM churches across the connection have set goals and are tracking progress in seven areas:
- 1. worship attendance
- people received into membership by profession of faith
- 3. number of small groups
- number of people participating in small groups
- number of people engaged in service and outreach
- contributions for mission beyond the local church
- 7. contributions for local church ministry

#### "Why measure?"

The Vital Congregations Dashboard for collecting data is an intentional effort to:

- shift our mindset so that our primary focus and commitment is on fostering and sustaining congregational vitality
- articulate and commit to newly clarified and dramatically higher performance expectations for all levels of the church
- expect and provide courageous, accountable leadership that assumes responsibility for upsetting current paradigms and shaping and adopting new understandings that result in more effective practices, and
- institute and report measurable performance results in all sectors of the denomination on an ongoing and regular basis, enabling us to learn and adjust the ways we invest and use our talent, time, and money

#### New thinking for new results

As the Christian mainline has progressively

- slipped to the sideline, it's clear we've got to do something different. Albert Einstein once said, "We can't solve problems by using the same kind of thinking we used when we created them."
- Instead of doing the same and getting more of the same, turning sights toward goal setting and performance tracking provides the necessary framework for a church to move toward its preferred future. It's a discipline that compels us to prayerfully discern where God is calling us and faithfully follow where God is leading us.
- Consistent recording and frequent reporting focuses our attention on what we're counting and encourages and cultivates more of the fruitful practices we are measuring. With goals come strategies for achieving those goals.
- As members of the United Methodist Church, we pledge to faithfully participate in ministries of our church by our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness. In turn, churches commit to providing the resources and the vehicle for fulfilling this pledge. At the core of our Wesleyan tradition is holding one another accountable to these vows in Christian love. The first step in being accountable is to secure a count to be able to know where we are and where we need to grow.
- Minnesota's goals, the sum of all local church goals submitted, over the next five years will return us to the strength of United Methodist work and witness that existed five years ago. It may not sound like much, but if each church individually meets its goals, then collectively, we will boldly reverse a two-generation-long trend of decline!

<u>Dan Johnson</u> is director of congregational development for the Minnesota Annual Conference.

## TECHNOLOGY GRANT FACILITATES COMBINED DAKOTA-MINNESOTA EPISCOPAL AREA

The new Dakotas-Minnesota Episcopal Area receives a \$125,000 grant from the conferences of the North Central Jurisdiction to expand video conferencing system in the Dakotas and Minnesota Conferences.

"The video conferencing technology will be a quantum leap forward in using technology for training, meetings, and more," said Cindy Gregorson, conference director of ministries. "It will make it much more accessible for people to work collaboratively and serve in annual conference leadership as well as allow our bishop to have face to face time with laity and clergy in a

cost and time effective way given the geographical size of the Dakotas-Minnesota Episcopal Area."

The North Central Jurisdictional Conference, held July 17-20 in Akron,
Ohio, approved a budget that included the video conferencing grant for the Dakotas-Minnesota episcopal area.

The Transition Team for the new episcopal area requested the grant to assist the bishop of the new area to lead an area that is almost the size of Texas. The Dakotas Conference has already been effectively using a video conferencing system, dubbed DAVID. "... we appreciate that the burdens and costs of this decision will be borne by the entire jurisdiction," said Gregorson.

"Videoconferencing is an effective and efficient way to do God's work," says Doreen Gosmire, Associate Director of Communications for the Dakotas Conference. "It allows people who perhaps could not find the time or money to travel to conference business meetings a chance to participate.

Gosmire, who has been running the DAVID system in the Dakotas Conference, says the system saves time and money. "The average costs savings per meeting by video conference is \$2,500 due to money not spent on travel, lodging and

meals," Gosmire said.

Minnesota has access to the Dakotas DAVID system via a "bridge," in the conference office in Minneapolis. The Transition Team, made up of representatives of both conferences, have used the system to plan for the new bishop, saving hours of work time and funds that might have been spent on travel, fuel and overnight accommodations.

"The system works like a telephone call with video," Gosmire said. "You can talk with each other and see each other in real time. Videos,

information on a computer, and images can also be shared during a video call. A video conference can be recorded and then viewed at another time, and it is possible to broadcast the video call over the Internet so that anyone on the Internet can view a meeting. The oppor-

tunities to do ministry in this new and innovative way are vast."

Barb Carroll, director of finance and administration for Minnesota conference and transition team member, says there are currently 5 sites in the Dakotas and one trial site in Minneapolis.

These funds will allow the conferences to establish four additional sites in Minnesota over the next 18 months.

"This technology will be initially most helpful to our bishop because he can connect with the superintendents of the conference for cabinet meetings or consultations, no matter where he is at the moment" Gregorson said. "It also allows him to join a meeting from wherever he may be. As the system expands in Minnesota, we expect it to be used by many of our ministry teams to save on travel time for meetings, and for allowing us to create satellite venues for speakers and training events."

#### THANK YOU'S

Both of us want to thank everyone for the cards, telephone calls, visits, special services—and prayers—during my prolonged stay at St. Mary's Hospital in Rochester and then at the Waseca Swing Bed.

Your concern and thoughtfulness is deeply appreciated!

Sincerely— Peter & Verna Fog

Church Family—Thanks for the gift card, it will be nice to purchase supplies at UMD. Continue to keep me in your prayers. ~~God Bless - Jacob Sass

Hi to all of you good friends in Waseca. I enjoy the Faith Messenger when it comes. I miss all of you a lot. Healthy Church check-up was a good article—a lot of great thought in it. I saved some of these lovely cards I get! [I'm glad to be] A member of our great church! ~~ Darlene Lynch



Thank you to everyone who supported our team and the Relay for Life! We exceeded our goal, with a total of \$6,187! ~~ Faith for

a Cure, the Faith UMC Team

Dear Faith UMC—Thank you for sending me to church camp. I really hope I will be able to go next year. Once again, thank you for giving me the chance to go to church camp!

~~ Beth Stankiewicz

Thank you to all our helpers with the Waseca County Fair Booth and Faith @ the Fair worship in the tent! You make all this possible!

## **UM's for Marriage Equality**

United Methodists for Marriage Equality: Regional meeting, Sept. 29, 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., Northfield UMC. UMME will meet to address issues regarding the proposed marriage amendment. Pastors and lay persons are welcome to attend. Contact John Stull (jstull@deskmedia.com) with questions.

#### **Red Cross Blood Drive**



Friday, August 31, 2012 8 a.m. to Noon **Christian Assembly** 

(900—14th Ave. SE, Waseca)

Sign up to donate today: www.redcrossblood.org.

Walk-ins are welcome, please bring photo id and/or donor card.

## The Shepherd's Robe at EUMC

Brothers and Sisters in Christ, we need your help. The Evangelical United Methodist Church is starting a new program offering clothes to those in our community who need them, but cannot afford them. Our program will start August 1. We will open every Wednesday morning from 9 to 11 a.m. and every Friday evening from 5 to 7 p.m.

If you have clothes, from infant to adult, including shoes and would like to donate them, you may drop them off at Evangelical on Tuesday mornings from 9 a.m. to noon, or call Nicki Schultz at (507) 279-4134 to make arrangements for pickup. The clothing donations will be given away at no charge and with no restrictions. NO ONE WILL BE TURNED AWAY.

# 2013 MN Conference Budget Smaller Than 2012 Budget

The 2013 annual conference budget comes to just over \$6.2 million, \$130,000 lower than the 2012 budget and at "ceiling" (maximum allowed by conference rules). It's at the same level as the 2003 budget and continues a trend of declining budgets. Apportionment dollars make missions like Imagine No Malaria possible, said Barbara Carroll, director of finance and administration, because they fund essential accountability processes. They also make available clergy benefits and resources for church health.

#### **Journey Through Grief**

Thursdays, August 23—October 11 6 to 8 p.m.

Sacred Heart Catholic Church

Parish Center Youth Room (111 NW 4th St., Waseca)

This is an 8-week grief group for people who have experienced the death of a loved one. This group includes time for exploring the grief process and for sharing experiences with others in the group. There is no charge for the program, but pre-registration is required. Call the Hospice Office at (507) 385-2989

## **FUMC Crisis Fund**

The Church Council has reviewed the Crisis Fund and adopted a written policy which includes an "annual gift" limit and clarification that the Pastor is the only individual to know who receives any assistance. Please contact Pastor Victor if you are interested in more information.

#### **CAMP DECISIONS MADE**

- Star Lake Wilderness Camp (Pequot Lakes), vigorously advocated for by a number of its users, has a chance at an existence independent of the Minnesota Annual Conference.
- Session members approved the Retreats and Camping Ministry Team's request to divest of Camp Kingswood (Mound) in order to alleviate the conference camping ministry's debt and invest funds into an improved camping program that would more effectively reach children and youth.
- They also approved an amendment that removed Star Lake from divestment. Instead, they authorized the conference Board of Trustees, in consultation with RCMT, to "negotiate, if possible, an arrangement for Star Lake Wilderness Camp to operate as a new entity that is separate from RCMT with no annual conference support."
- Session members asked for hard details on the arrangement, but the Trustees and the amendment author, Walter Lockhart (Walker Community United Methodist Church, Minneapolis), explained that this is simply authorization for negotiation, without obligation from either Star Lake or the conference trustees to accept an arrangement.
- RCMT had asked the conference to agree to divest of both properties to fund an improved Christian residential camping program for youth and children at Northern Pines (Park Rapids) and Koronis Ministries (Paynesville). These two sites seem most suited accommodate the RCMT plan to draw as many children as possible to a faith-building camp experience.
- Matt Sipe (Delano UMC) said the RCMT's vision is 152 children a week at summer camps, where participants deepen faith, build self-confidence and leadership skills, and mature in a faith that sustains them for life.



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For submissions, corrections and address updates, or to be removed from this mailing list, contact Tina England, Administrative Assistant at (507) 835-3167 or faithwaseca@gmail.com or by mail at 801 Fourth Ave. NE, Waseca, MN 56093.

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835-4304 or

Mary Jane Stauffer 833-2979

Parish Nurse

Sherry Scholljegerdes

835-4304

Prayer Chain Coordinator

Deloris Asmus 835-1367

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Pastor Victor 835-3167

\*\* Looking for Project

Volunteers!

Welcoming Team

Pastor Victor 835-3167

\*\* Looking for Project Volunteers!

Don't be shy...

Call Us!

Faith Messenger

Plug-In!

give us a

call & get

involved!



#### (... UMCOR Continued from Page 9.)

aid programs substantially. UMCOR now has three offices in South Sudan, including our central office in the capital, Juba.

This expansion of assistance in the fledgling nation is only possible with the support of our partners, including USAID, the European Commission, Ginghamsburg United Methodist Church, Holston Annual Conference, and of course, the generosity of individual United Methodists, among many others.

Please give to <u>Sudan Emergency</u>, <u>UMCOR Advance #184385</u>. \*Please select South Sudan from the drop-down menu.

## NEWS: UMCOR, UMVIM STRENGTHEN PARTNERSHIP

UMCOR and Volunteers in Mission, both of the United Methodist General Board of Global Ministries, are planning to celebrate their partnership in disaster response with a 2013 summit in Nashville, Tennessee.

While an official theme is still being decided for the meeting, UMCOR consultant Barbara Tripp noted that the summit will be a milestone since it has been several years since the two groups have met to discuss the strengths of their partnership and areas for improvement.

Una Jones, who as assistant general secretary for Mission and Evangelism heads up Volunteers in Mission, said she is looking forward to the summit. Her office relates to United Methodist Volunteers in Mission (UMVIM) at the jurisdictional and conference levels.

"I like to say that, in many ways, UMCOR and UMVIM power each other's work," said UMCOR Assistant General Secretary for US Disaster Response Tom Hazelwood.

#### **RESOURCE: CONNECTING NEIGHBORS**

When a disaster strikes, the local church provides the first response. The visible presence of the church is an essential and effective ministry that brings God's hope and healing to people in times of crisis.

UMCOR's Connecting Neighbors Leadership
Training is a one-day, local-church disasterreadiness program designed to equip volunteer trainers with the information and tools
they need to help guide the church as it prepares to respond to disaster in the community. Those persons willing and able to prepare their church community for this ministry
are encouraged to participate in this program.

And, please pray for those who are hungry, displaced, sick or in poverty because of these and other natural and human-made disasters, and for the workers who minister to them....

#### **THANK YOU!**

You can donate to any project by placing a contribution in the offering plate at a local United Methodist church; by sending a check to UMCOR, PO Box 9068, New York, NY 10087-9068; or by calling 1-800-554-8583, where credit card donations are accepted. You can also give online or make a \$10 donation anytime by texting "UMCOR" to 80888. UMCOR is exempt from tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of the United States and qualifies for the maximum charitable contribution deduction by donors.

### **Giving Envelopes**

It is time to order Giving Envelopes for 2013. You have the option of Weekly or Monthly Giving Envelopes. If you would like Monthly Giving envelopes (one for each month), please let the church office or Barbara Friedl know. You may leave a message or talk with Tina or Barbara at 835-3167 or email faithwaseca@gmail.com. If we don't hear from you, the regular Weekly Giving Envelopes will be ordered. New Envelopes will be available the first of the New Year 2013.



#### **Faith United Methodist Church**

"The Church By The Lake."

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