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Faith United Methodist Church "Faith by the lake and beyond!"

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Volume 2014, Issue 7

Conference Highlights

Wondering how to condense three full days of worship, celebration, learning, and Conference business into a succinct report you can bring back to members of your congregation? Here are some highlights to consider sharing:

• Love Offering: As of Friday morning, \$81,759 had been collected for this year's Love Offering. Donations are continuing to come in and will throughout the coming months. Eighty per cent of this year's Love Offering will go to Feed My Starving Children to help pay for meals packed through our "Million Meals Marathon." And Project AgGrad and Volunteers in Mission scholarships will each receive 10 per cent of the Love Offering.

- Imagine No Malaria: On Wednesday, Conference attendees celebrated having raised \$2.7 million to date for Imagine No Malaria, a denomination-wide effort to eliminate malaria deaths in sub-Saharan Africa by 2015. That amount translates to 270,000 lives saved. The Minnesota Conference has raised more than any other Annual Conference to date and far exceeded its initial \$1.8 million goal. Just a few years ago, malaria claimed a life every 30 seconds. That rate has been cut in half, thanks in part to the generous support of the state's United Methodist churches.
- Million Meals Marathon meal packing: Minnesota United Methodists have collectively packed 2,091,077 meals to date through our "Million Meals Marathon," which launched in February. That equates to 9,592 boxes of meals and 266 pallets—and it's enough to feed 5,728 children once a day for a year. Thousands of volunteers took part in the packaging, and they ranged in age from 5 to 90-plus. Churches in the Conference have far surpassed the initial goal of packing at least 1 million meals through Feed My Starving Children.
- Bishop's Episcopal Address: Bishop Bruce R. Ough talked to Conference session members about evangelism and sharing their God stories. He said God is calling us to re-evangelize Minnesota, to introduce more people to Christ. There are people in every one of our communities who are asking, "Am I too late to get to know Jesus?"

He said the keys to unleashing fearless, Spirit-led churches are hearts that break for the poor, the lost, the forgotten, and the excluded—and a passion for turning the church inside-out to embrace the needs of those outside the church.

• Adam Hamilton Teaching Sessions: Rev. Adam Hamilton, who led three teaching sessions at this year's Conference, explored what it means to "lead beyond the walls" through effective leadership, inspirational worship and preaching, and intentional evangelism and outreach. He is founding pastor of the United Methodist Church of the Resurrection in

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Choir Summer Sign Up Sheet

The Choir will sing on July 12th and August 17th. A sign up sheet for summer music is in the church office.

July 4th Potluck

We would like to invite everyone to the 4th of July church potluck. Your Relay for Life will be providing plates, napkins, eating utensils and beverages. We are planning to eat around 6:00pm. Come early-we are planning to have lawn games that everyone can play. After the potluck, plan to stay around and watch the fireworks from the church parking lot or inside the Fellowship Hall.

In the evening hours we are also planning to do face painting and sell pop and popcorn for the fireworks. This will be put on by the Relay for Life Team. It should be a good time, so plan to be part of the event.

Prayer Requests

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

Koda Living Community, Owatonna: Elaine Flathers

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

Laurel's Peak: Paul Krause

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, Dick and Elaine Westrum, Bruce and Deb Hering, Leona Quast, Michael Longanecker

Younger Women's Dinner Out

Thursday, July 17, 6:00 p.m. at the Boat House

We'll meet, eat, and walk if you like after dinner. Come to join the fun!

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"Jesus Loves Me" Quilt



Have you seen the quilt yet? It hangs in the hallway across from the elevators. Hansel and Gretel kids joined forces with the Some Time Away older adults to create the quilt. The kids colored their faces on fabric with help from the adults. It was then quilted. Peggy said the kids love pointing out their faces to their friends and family.

Thank You

Thank you for the gifts of money and physical labor given to the gardens. Due to the generosity of our congregation last year and this spring, we have been able to maintain all of the flower beds and renovate the island garden under the canopy with your financial support.

Clair Voshell



Lifeline Screening

Faith United Methodist Church is pleased to offer a preventive health event. Life Line Screening, a leading provider of community-based preventive health screenings, will host their affordable, non-invasive and painless health screenings on 7/17/2014. In order to register for this event and to receive a \$10 discount off any package priced above \$129, please call 1-888-653-6441 or visit:

www.lifelinescreening.com/community-partners.

Faith Crafters and Stitchers



Faith Crafters and Stitchers will meet on **Thursday, July 10**, from **1:00-3:00 p.m.** in the **Fellowship Hall.** You are welcome to bring your own project to work on. We will also try to have some Bazaar 2014 projects to work on if you wish. Bring a friend and join us for work time, fellowship, coffee and snacks! If you have questions, please call Sandy Voshell at 835-4122.

Faith Messenger

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Faith United Methodist Women Unit Meeting May 20, 2014

Present: Gloria Tollefson, Dolores Dahnert, Marilyn Possin, Margaret Hasslen, Sherry Scholljegerdes, Shirley Burdick, Barbara Friedl, Mary Stauffer, Edy Barber, Shirley Hansen, Roberta Walker, Karen Ferch, Linda Lohse, Theresa Riecke, Millie White, Char Frankenberry, Ardella Draheim, Lorraine Wick

Devotions were given by Karen Ferch. We were each given a copy of the poem, "Beautiful Christian Sister" by Maya Angelou. She then read a devotion by Max Lucado followed by prayer.

President Barbara Friedl opened our business meeting. She thanked the Mary Circle for hosting our delicious meal this evening.

Secretary's Report: The minutes from our last meeting were approved. Shirley Hansen read a thank-you from Pastor Victor and Patrice for the Christmas gift. A letter from Emma Norton Services regarding our past donation was read, as well as letting everyone know that Emma Norton has a new Executive Director, Tonya Brownlow. Their spring newsletter will be posted on the bulletin board in the narthex.

Treasurer's Report: In Sandy Voshell's absence, Barbara read her report. The money received from the Spring Luncheon was \$874 plus \$135 in cash donations. After subtracting our expenses of \$335.93, the profit was \$673.07.

Linda Lohse then gave a short report on plans for our Guest Night, which will be held on Tuesday, September 9th at 7:00 p.m. Beth Crosby from KJLY radio will be our speaker. In August, Linda will ask Beth what her topic will be. Help is needed for publicity of this event and also table decorations.

Sandy Voshell said she would coordinate the refreshments for the evening.

Roberta Walker let everyone know that a committee has plans made for the June 7th Tea, "Hats Off to Summer" and Mary Stauffer said she has tickets available this evening if anyone would like to purchase one.

Barbara told us our district pledge for 2015 would be raised by \$5.00. Shirley Burdick made a motion to raise our contribution to Emma Norton Services by \$5.00 as well. This was seconded by Sherry and the motion was passed.

'A Day Apart' will be held in Amboy on June 17th. If any women would like to attend, the registration deadline is June 9th. Sandy Voshell, Char Frankenberry and Barbara Freidl all expressed interest in attending. The Southern Prairie Annual Gathering will be held in Montevideo on June 13th if anyone is interested in attending this event.

Mission U will be held at St. John's University on July 15th – 18th. Mission U Too will be a one-day event on July 19th. Theresa Riecke is the Dean this year and Char Frankenberry is the Assistant Registrar. Registration is due before June 24th and after that date the rates increase. The rate for Saturday's gathering is \$89 for the day. There are events going on Friday evening and that option would cost \$127.00 for a double room with no air conditioning. There will be three breakout sessions that day: 1) How is it with your Soul? 2) The Church and People with Disabilities, and 3) The Roma in Europe. Scholarships are available and requests need to be submitted by June 9th. Our UMW has \$300.00 in scholarship funds at the present time.

Barb asked if anyone was interested in co-chairing our Fall Bazaar. If so, please contact her. The Executive Board recommended having the silent auction and a live auction of homemade pies at a separate time (a Sunday in mid-October) to alleviate the crowded condition of last year's bazaar due to people staying for a lengthy time once they've sat down to eat, and we didn't have enough space available to set up more tables. Several women expressed concern about losing bids from people outside our church if we would do this. After much discussion, the matter was tabled until our next meeting in August giving everyone time to think creatively to solve the overcrowding issue.

Once the business meeting was over, Barb told us about their trip to the UMW Assembly in Louisville, KY. One hundred people from Minnesota were there, and the total attendance was 6800 people. Hillary Clinton was their keynote speaker. Over 50 workshops were available during the event. A film Barb saw in one of her sessions was *Not My Life*. The subject of (Continued on next page.)

Faith United Methodist Women Unit Meeting Continued

(Continued from page 4.)

this film was human trafficking, and she was so impressed with it that she suggested we try to see it here sometime. The other film Barb viewed was *Behind the Kitchen Door*. This film was about restaurant workers organizing for dignity and justice. It was on how unequal employment is. Employees are not treated fairly by their employers and not paid fairly. Char Frankenberry, who also attended the Assembly, was part of a live drama entitled *Friends of the Groom*, based on the story of the feeding of the 5,000, which was performed before the whole Assembly. She viewed an impressive film as well, *Walking in Oak Creek*. They were both very impressed with singing among 6800 voices. The next Assembly (2018) will be held in Ohio.

Our next meeting will be held on August 18th at 6:00 p.m. We'll have a potluck preceding our business meeting, which will be planned at the next Executive Board meeting held on August 4th at 9:30 a.m. *Shirley Hansen, Secretary*



AED (Artificial Electronic Defibrillator)

Our AED is now available for a cardiac emergency. It is located outside the nursery on the adjacent coat rack. There is also an emergency bag with all kinds of medical supplies.

We're hoping we never have to use it but it is reassuring to have it here.

A BIG thank you to Brian and Julie Svoboda for their contribution of the box that the AED is in and the emergency bag with all the medical supplies. Thanks to Roger Goetz for researching and ordering the AED. Thanks to everyone who took the training last fall for CPR and AED use: Barb Friedl, Patrice Waters, Shirley Hansen, Jan Kaupa, Roger Goetz, Julie and Brian Svoboda. We received a Gold Cross Grant for \$500 and the rest was paid for by our church members.

Thanks, Sherry, Parish Nurse

Men of Faith Meeting Minutes

The Men of Faith Meeting was held at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, June 12, 2014 in the Fellowship Hall at Faith United Methodist Church. Those present were Jim Barber, Peter Fog, Paul Lohse, Clair Voshell, Wally Ruedy, Keith Smith, Ron Terrell, Roger Walker, Les Wells, and Dick Westrum.

Jim Barber shared cupcakes with the group to celebrate his birthday. Thanks Edy!

Les Wells lead us in prayer and a devotional.

Guest speaker for the meeting was Elaine Spain, representing the Waseca Area Neighborhood Service Center (NSC). She gave us facts and figures relating to the poverty level in our area. She also explained the operations of the NSC, including the thrift store and the food shelf and other food programs. Elaine also explained various volunteer opportunities at the NSC.

The group decided that we should look into how we could also volunteer in some capacity.

Paul Lohse reported on the Cross Project. He said the committee decided that a simple wooden cross should be installed next to the Clear Lake shore. The cross would be about ten feet high and it was suggested that it should be buried six feet. It will be backlit with two solar lights so it will be visible from the campground and the lake. The group voted to accept Paul's report and for him to take it to the Trustees for further action.

Fellowship servers for June 22 will be Dick Westrum and Roger Walker. The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 pm. The next meeting will be July 10, 2014. Submitted by Roger Walker

Parish Nurse Notes: Living Well at Home

Last month you received in the newsletter a "Live Well at Home" Rapid Screen. I am hoping that all of you age 65 and older took the quiz. If you scored 3 or higher, please give me a call at 835-4304. If you would like some help in choosing the options for your particular concerns, I can help you find resources.

Living well at home is a program through the MN Department of Human Services and administered by the MN Board on Aging. I went to St. Paul about a month ago to be trained for this program and feel it is worth our time and energy. After all, doesn't everyone want to stay in their home as long as possible?

Here is an overview from the program I attended:

"Live Well at Home is a program that helps older adults live at home longer. Live Well at Home offers services that help older adults and families deal with possible risk factors that are likely to cause them to have to move from home to a nursing home or assisted living facility.

We are here to work with you, but with Live Well at Home you are in control of your own plan for staying at home longer.

Live Well at Home helps with figuring out what kind of help you need or want at home and features great options such as being able to hire family or friends, if you prefer. There are other helpful connections to make this easier for you, like a fiscal agent that can help with payments and tracking the money used to pay for help.

The Live Well at Home focus is on YOUR goal for living at home-offering ideas, encouraging action, and bolstering decisions around the goal."

As always, our conversations are confidential. I am looking forward to hearing from you.

Your Parish Nurse, Sherry Scholljegerdes, RN

(Continued from page 1.)

Conference Highlights Continued...

Leawood, Kansas—which has grown to become the largest United Methodist Church in the country. Key takeaways: We must do whatever it takes to make people feel welcomed at our churches, inspire them and teach them something new when they come to worship, and be able to articulate and share why we love the church we attend and what difference it has made in our lives.

• Reach Renew Rejoice: Thursday marked the formal launch of a congregational development initiative to start new churches and grow existing churches. Through this initiative—which requires our prayers and generosity—each year for the next seven years, the Minnesota Conference will start one new church, assist 20 churches in revitalizing their ministries, and partner with a vital parent church to multiply its ministry beyond its current site.

This initiative aims to raise \$3.7 million over the next few years. A total of \$929,216.03 has been pledged to date, and Metro West Builders presented a check for \$200,000 on Thursday before Conference attendees.

• Legislation: Members of Annual Conference debated and voted on legislation related to homosexuality, reducing our carbon footprint, Soda Stream, and justice.

Members of Annual Conference debated and voted on a number of pieces of legislation on Thursday and Friday. Here's a synopsis of key items;

1. General Conference petitions on homosexuality: Members approved eight General Conference petitions related to homosexuality. Seven of them, which were discussed together, call on the legislative body for the global United Methodist Church to remove all "discriminatory language about homosexuality" from The Book of Discipline. The other one calls for a change that would allow clergy to perform same-sex marriages and for such ceremonies to be performed within United Methodist churches when authorized by vote of the Annual Conference where the clergy person is appointed or the church is located—or by a two-thirds vote of the church Conference where the clergy person is appointed. Members who supported and

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(Continued from page 6.)

Conference Highlights Continued...

- 1. opposed the legislation had a respectful and productive discussion about the legislation before the votes were taken.
- 2. Open letter about inclusiveness: Members voted to approve the sending of an open letter that will be sent to Bishop Bruce Ough, the Cabinet, and the Conference's Board of Ordained Ministry; the letter asks those groups to support ministry that's "unshackled by those rules inscribed in our Book of Discipline that continue to exclude and discriminate against those who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) as well as place barriers between them and our clergy persons seeking to minister to all." **Items 1 and 2 were approved by the majority of the voting body with a minority of churches in the conference respectfully opposing these pieces of legislation.*
- 3. Reducing the carbon footprint of church buildings: Conference members approved a resolution to reduce the carbon footprint of our church buildings. The legislation, submitted by the Hopeful Earth Steering Committee, calls for the conference to "encourage all of our congregations to estimate the carbon footprint" of our buildings, determine how to reduce it, and implement those changes. All congregations that reduce their carbon footprint by 10 percent or more will be recognized at the 2016 Annual Conference.
- 4. Boycott of Soda Stream: Members voted to approve a boycott of Soda Stream products in accordance with a resolution passed at the 2012 General Conference, which advocated boycotting such products. Palestine Israel Justice Project and the Church and Society Ministry Team said that Soda Stream products are manufactured in a Jewish settlement on land that was taken from Palestinians living in occupied territories in violation of international law. The action is mean to pressure the state of Israel to withdraw from the occupied territories and negotiate peace with the Palestinians.
- 5. Pursuing justice: Members voted to approve a resolution that encourages Minnesota residents and United Methodists to support a proposed amendment to the state Constitution that would require gubernatorial, merit-based selection for all judicial vacancies; performance evaluations of judges by a public commission; and voter retention or rejection of judges after each term. Those who submitted the resolution cite Exodus 18:12—"You should also look for able men among all the people, men who fear God, are trustworthy, and hate dishonest gain…"—and the denomination's Social Principles, which state that "the church should continually exert a strong ethical influence upon the state, supporting policies and programs deemed to be just…"

These remaining items were approved by the majority of the voting body.

Pastor's Notes:

As your Pastor I was not at Conference on Friday to vote on the above legislation due to officiating Alice Robinsons funeral but here are my comments on items 1, 2 and 4.

I support the current language in the Discipline concerning homosexuality and same sex unions. While I affirm and love all peoples regardless of their sexual orientation, I do not affirm the practice of homosexuality and I support traditional marriage as God's primary desire for men and women.

I personally do not support any movement to boycott Israel academically or financially.

I respectfully offer my opinions to you and I will talk about these issues with anyone who wishes to talk with me.

Thank You,

Pastor Victor

_Faith United Methodist Church

"Faith by the lake ~ and beyond!"

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MONTHLY MEET-UPS	
<u>Elizabeth Circle</u> UMW Elizabeth Circle <u>will not meet</u> in July.	<u>Mary Circle</u> Mary Circle <u>will not meet in July</u> or August. They will meet in September.
<u>Ruth Circle</u> UMW Ruth Circle will meet Wednesday, July 16th, at 9:30 a.m. The location is to be determined.	<u>Men of Faith</u> Our next Men of Faith Meeting will be on Thursday, July 10th, at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall of Faith United Methodist Church. The meeting is open to all men. Bring a friend! Roger Walker