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Faith Messenger

**MAY
2014**

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

**Volume 2014,
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The Art of Forgiveness

Forgiveness is the core of what it means to follow Jesus but it proves a challenge to all of us. Here are some thoughts that might help you through the process.

Five Myths Around Forgiveness – Louis Smeades

Forgiving Someone Is Making An Excuse For Their Offense.

You excuse a person's behavior when there is no guilt involved. Someone bumps into you and says excuse me and you say, no problem. They are not guilty of wronging you. They simply bumped into you.

You forgive a person when they are guilty of a specific offense. For example, you lied to me and I know it, but I forgive you.

Forgiving Is The Same a Tolerance For/ Tolerating Wrong Behavior.

The man and wife who were robbed at gunpoint pick the suspect out of the line up. They press charges against the robber and bring him to justice, but they forgive him of his actions. He is still accountable for his crime but the couple does not relive the crime over and over by not releasing the offender from what he did. This is a process that takes time but results in the healing of the offended heart and sometimes in the redemption of the offender.

People Expect Instant Results.

Forgiveness is a process that brings results over time. Like an IRA you invest for the long haul, not like an oil gusher that produces immediate wealth. Forgiveness is a repetitive process. Forgiveness takes work.

People Don't Like The Tension They Feel Between Themselves And The Offender So They Rush The Process.

Listen to this well-intended conversation:

Offended: I just want you to know I forgive you.

Offender: For What?

Offended: For not following through on your promise.

Offender: Well how about the time last summer you broke your promise to me, or last fall when you never showed for lunch, or a couple years ago when you ...

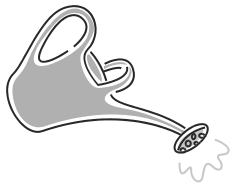
Wait until the offender is ready to hear your words of forgiveness and wait till you are ready; then begin the process or they may feel backed into a corner and you may be hurt all over again.

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Church Gardens

Work on the church gardens is underway. If you would like to donate money for bedding plants, just put your donation in an envelope marked "garden fund" and put it in the offering plate. Thank you very much!

Clair and Sandy Voshell will maintain the Peace Garden, the Flagpole Garden, the planter under the sign, and the hosta bed under the pine tree. We sure would appreciate volunteers to maintain the plantings around the church building. Please call Clair at 835-4122 if some work time would fit into your schedule.



Younger Women's Dinner Out

We will meet at the church upper parking lot at 6:00 p.m. and walk to Barney's for supper. The walking after dinner is up to you.

Come join the fun and fellowship. Call Roberta at 835-3044 or Sherry at 835-4304 so we know who to expect. Last minute women are always welcome.

If it rains, we'll meet the following Wednesday, May 21st. Hope to see you there!

Relay for Life Garage/Bake Sale

Please remember the garage sale and bake sale for Relay for Life. Set up will be on Friday night the 2nd. The garage sale is May 3rd, 2014. Items that we need are: clothes hangers, clothing, ladies' hand bags, jewelry, lamps, any kind of furniture, any kind of tools. If you would like to donate please call Dave Baldini or Vada Dahnert. If anyone wants to bake items and donate them we would be happy to take them. We would like to try and double our intakes from last year.

All proceeds go to Cancer. Fight the Fight!

Faith Crafters and Stitchers

Faith Crafters and Stitchers will meet **Thursday, May 8th**, from **1:00-3:00 p.m.** in the **Fellowship Hall**. You are welcome to bring your own project to work on or there will be Bazaar 2014 projects you may work on if you wish. Bring a friend and join us for work time, fellowship, coffee, and snacks.



Special Women's Event



Keep this date Open
Saturday, June 7
 in the Fellowship Hall

For a Special Women's Event
 Watch for details to be announced.
 Event is sponsored by Faith UMW

Monthly 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

Lakeshore Inn: Florence Gutknecht, Hazel Henkensiefken, Don Lohse

Latham Place: Liz Corchran

Morrow Home, Sparta, WI: Marlene Rietfort

Oaklawn Health Care Center: Jim Keller

Pathstone Living: Paul Krause

Janesville Nursing Home: Nina Youngberg

Tower Light, St. Louis Park: Darlene Lynch

Those who also need our prayers: Willie Mahler, Jerry Krause

Prayer Requests from Sunday Worship: Leona Quast, Rodger and Vada Dahnert, Dick and Elaine Westrum, Marie Wells, Roberta Walker's daughter-in-law Rose, Marlen Olson



Men of Faith Meeting Minutes

The Men of Faith Meeting was held at 6:30 pm on Thursday, April 10, 2014, in the Fellowship Hall at Faith United Methodist Church. Those present were Jim Barber, Rodger Dahnert, Peter Fog, Neil Fruechte, Bob Hunter, Ron Terrell, Clair Voshell, Roger Walker, Victor Waters, Les Wells, and Dick Westrum.

The meeting was hosted by Roger Walker and Peter Fog. Peter provided delicious cinnamon rolls. Thanks Verna! Victor Waters led us in prayer. Roger Walker read John 10 regarding the Good Shepherd Jesus' willingness to lay down his life for the flock and his ability to pick it up again.

Peter Fog reported on the valet/greeter service. It was a very successful winter season, but we need more volunteers for spring, summer, and fall. Volunteers are especially needed for worship days when a lot of people attend. Peter Fog volunteered for Palm Sunday and Bob Hunter for Easter Sunday. It was also suggested that the second floor greeters move closer to the entry door so they can direct visitors who need help finding where they are going. It will be helpful to maintain greeters after the service (Post Greeters) for the same reason.

The men will again serve Easter sunrise breakfast. Dave Baldini and Paul Lohse are chairing the event. A few men are needed for cooking and ALL men are needed for serving and clean-up. A sheet was passed around for volunteers.

The UMW Spring Salad Luncheon will be April 22. A sheet was passed for volunteers for table setting, busing, clean-up, and dish washing.

The name-tag situation was discussed. We are still trying to determine the optimum way to store them without having them bent up and unorganized. There were a few suggestions, but no consensus on how to do that, so it was sent back to the Hospitality Team to make a decision.

Victor Waters presented an opportunity for our church to participate in the Million Meals Marathon which is sponsored by the Minnesota Annual Conference. The goal is to pack one million meals to help the Feed My Starving Children program. Our participation will be in Mankato on May 3. There are also openings on May 2 if people have a conflict with May 3. Ron Terrell and Roger Walker volunteered to drive.

Victor also commented on a new program offered by Habitat for Humanity in which our church could participate. The program is called A Brush with Kindness. The program helps low income home owners (often seniors, disabled, or single-parent families) maintain their property with painting, minor repairs, and other maintenance. The program will be in our area starting this fall. Our participation in the program would eliminate the problem of liability insurance for us.

Roger Walker stated that fellowship servers are needed for the fourth Sunday of each month. Victor Waters wondered if it wouldn't be a good idea for the Men of Faith to serve on Mother's Day, May 11, 2014. Clair Voshell will check with Sandy to see what has been committed for that date.

Peter Fog commented on the Matthew 25 Project. Our first goal is to get representatives from the Neighborhood Service Center to talk to the group about what is needed in our area. He has them lined up to speak at our June meeting.

The next meeting for Men of Faith will be Thursday, May 8, 2014.

Submitted by Roger Walker

Photo Recap



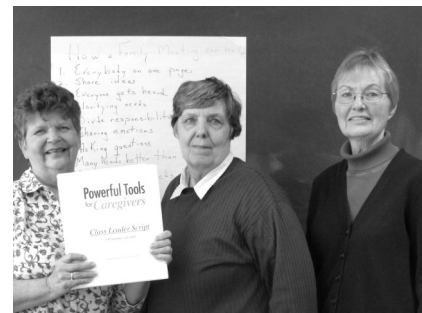
Dylan Waugh and Marcus Norby enjoying fellowship.



Dylan Fredrickson at Children's Church



Dylan Waugh, mom Becky, and Pastor Victor at baptism.



Powerful Tools for Caregivers:
Sherry Scholljegerdes, Sister Lois Erpelding, Sharon Fruechte



Choir Members having a good day:
Julie Sass and Shirley Burdick



Lori Pommerenke having fun at Some Time Away.



The first Sunday (Palm Sunday) of using the screen.

Parish Nurse Notes— “The Gift of Life”-Organ, Eye and Tissue Donation

Are you a donor? Look on your driver’s license. If you are, it is to be printed in red letters DONOR on the front of your license. When you reapply for your license you can check donor or contact www.organdonor.gov or call 1-866-993-6628 to sign up.

Organ, eye, and tissue donating is a very personal decision. If you are already a donor—thank you. If you are considering donating, here are some things to think about.

- One organ donor can save up to eight lives.
- One eye and tissue donor can enhance the lives of as many as 50 people.
- Every day, more people are added to the US transplant waiting list, while the number of donors grows slowly. The number of patients waiting is 4 times greater than the number who received one.

Here are some answers to frequently asked questions:

1. People of any age can be a donor. Anyone over age 18 can register.

Even with a medical condition, donation may be possible.

2. The Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network distributes and maintains a waiting list for patients and does the matching.

3. No one gets preferential listing because of being rich or famous.

4. People of different ethnicities and races can be a match.

5. Doctors will still try to save your life even if they know you’re a donor.

6. There is no cost to the family for organ donation.

7. You can have an open—casket funeral.

8. It is not legal to pay someone for an organ and it is a federal offense to try to do so.

9. Tell your family of your wishes and save them from making the decisions in a difficult time.

“While they were eating, Jesus took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to his disciples saying “Take it; this is my body.” Mark 14:22

Parish Nurse Notes Continued

(Continued from page 6.)

Could it be that Jesus was the first donor? He gave himself for our sins. Thank about this. Are we able to give life to others at the time of our death in remembrance of what Jesus did for us?

Grace and Peace,

Your Parish Nurse, Sherry

*Information from US Department of Health and Human Services, October 2012

The Art of Forgiveness Continued

(Continued from page 1.)

We Have To Go Back To The Same Relationship We Had Before.

That may not be possible...Maybe the only thing you can do is help stop the hurting and the pain.

FORGIVENESS MAKES THE OFFENDER A PERSON

FIVE MYTHS ABOUT PAY BACK

“ I don’t get mad I get even.”

Here are the costs of getting even:

1. **Always Tired** - Takes work like keeping a fire going you have keep putting new timber on the hearth. To keep the offense alive you have to keep re-living it over and over again.
2. **Trapped In The Past** – They can never escape the past. It is with them day and night.
3. **Joyless** – Anger and resentment kills our joy.
4. **Isolated** – They are less engaged with others because their anger drives others away.
5. **Hard**– Their hearts become hardened. They deny grace to others and they refuse the grace of God for themselves as they desperately try to earn God’s love and good favor.

A better way Colossians 3:12-14 Put on then, as God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience; bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

May God give us the grace to be graceful to ourselves and those around us as we all seek to be more like Jesus.

Pastor Victor



Faith United Methodist Church

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Change Service Requested

MONTHLY MEET-UPS

Elizabeth Circle

UMW Elizabeth Circle will meet **Wednesday, May 21st, at 3:00 p.m.** in the Lakeview Room. The whole circle will host and Shirley Burdick will lead devotions. Visitors welcome!

Mary Circle

UMW Mary Circle will meet on **Tuesday, May 20th, at 1:00 p.m.** The location is to be determined.

Ruth Circle

UMW Ruth Circle will meet **Wednesday, April 21st, at 9:30 a.m.** The location is to be determined.

Men of Faith

Our April Men of Faith Meeting will be on **Thursday, May 8th, 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

