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Special Points of Interest:

- October Monthly Meetings, Back Page
- October Birthdays and Anniversaries included with Calendar

Administrative Assistant

Office Hours:

Mon. & Wed.:

9:30 am to Noon

Thurs.:

1:00 to 4:00 pm



From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Ones,

November is the month of Thanksgiving! This holiday may look different for you this year. Thanksgiving during a pandemic might take the "stuffing" out of our traditions but sometimes different is good. I'm going to tell you about my family Thanksgiving when I was in 4th grade.

Both of my parents were wonderful cooks. In fact, my father made his living for much of his life as a chef. Holidays were filled with delicious food at my house. This particular Thanksgiving started out with the usual things. A fire in the fireplace, football on the TV, and delicious aromas coming from the kitchen. My Mother set the table in true holiday style with the best china, cloth napkins, and the milk poured into a clear glass pitcher. Milk cartons were not allowed on my Mother's holiday table.

Our Thanksgiving meal was traditionally served at about 3:00 and like other holidays, my two brothers and I were getting hungry! We could hardly wait for the traditional turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes and gravy and all the other side dishes we knew would be on the table. Finally, the call came. The meal was ready, and we eagerly took our seats. My Father said the blessing and passed the turkey platter to me. I cannot describe the surprise I felt when I looked at what was on the turkey platter. It was MEATLOAF! Not the tender, juicy turkey I had waited all day for. I looked at my Dad, our eyes locked for a few seconds but he said nothing. So, I took a piece of meatloaf and the meal continued.

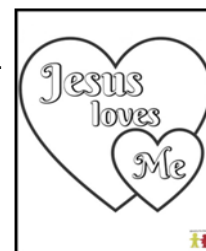
I don't know why we didn't have turkey that Thanksgiving. Was the grocery store out of turkey? Did my parents forget to take the turkey out of the freezer? Could we not afford a turkey? Did the turkey burn? To this day I do not know. But I do remember that Thanksgiving meal being just like the rest (minus the turkey). We all ate too much, we talked about what we were thankful for, we laughed and had a great time. My little family, having meatloaf for thanksgiving.

I share this story with you as a reminder to all of us that we can have a wonderful holiday even if the circumstances are different. I know that the pandemic has taken the sparkle out of life for many of us. I urge you to take heart. To count your blessings.

In uncertain times, we can hang onto the one constant in our lives. Jesus Christ. Always with us, always loving us.

I pray you have a grand holiday however it looks this year.

Blessings, Pastor Carolyn



Prayer Requests

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

Janesville Nursing Home: Nina Youngberg

Whispering Creek Care Center Janesville: Muriel Jenkins

Traditions Assisted Living Owatonna: Ardella Draheim

Foxdale: Joe & Gloria Tollefson

Koda Living Community: Chuck Youngberg

Lakeshore Inn: Liz Corchran, Leona Quast

Latham Place: Lucille Kubista, Elaine Westrum

Prayer Requests from Sunday Worship: Michael Schumacher, government officials, health care workers, first responders, and those who are most at risk and vulnerable to Covid-19, those who battle chronic illness and pain.



A Positive Financial Update

As you know, there were many years over the past twenty that Faith Church was unable to pay any of its apportionments and other years when we paid only half or a bit more. Our Conference keeps track of that deficit that reached well over \$100 thousand. In 2019, with your help, we were able to pay 100% of our apportionments of approximately \$21,000. These apportionments are an important part of our obligations as members of the Minnesota Annual Conference.

We recently received a letter from the Annual Conference that acknowledged our 2019 full payment and further states that "We have released \$28,755.74 for 2019. This leaves a remaining balance of \$86,267.22."

"This release is based on the policy of the Annual Conference that allows a release of a church's prior year unpaid apportionments whenever a church pays 100% of its current year apportionment amount. This process is automatic. ...we automatically release 25% of the unpaid amount from prior years."

Our 2020 apportionments total \$20,869 included in the approved operating budget. We have already paid \$10,000 of that amount and so far, have been able to pay all of our bills. If everyone pays their 2020 pledges or otherwise gives the estimated amounts we included in our budget planning (based on prior giving), we should be able to pay 100% of our apportionments again this year. This is impressive during these challenging times.

Knowing that there are many sacrifices each one of us is already making, hopefully we can find a way as the Faith Church congregation to continue our support of 100% payment of our apportionments. These apportionments benefit our Church as whole, and the financial benefit to our church is very significant.

Administrative Assistant Hours

Just a reminder that Stacy's anticipated hours for the week will be found on the "Week at a Glance" page in the Sunday bulletins. At this time, anticipated hours in the office are as follows:

Monday and Wednesday: 9:30 am to Noon

Thursday: 1:30 to 4:00 pm.

It is best to call ahead if you need to visit the office.

Trustee Meeting

Trustees will meet on Thursday, November 19 at 6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Please wear a mask.

WACS Fundraiser

Waseca Area Caregiver Services will be hosting a Burger Fry fundraiser on Friday, November 20 at the American Legion in Waseca. Tickets are \$9.00 and can be purchased at the following locations:

Waseca American Legion

700 S. State St.

Waseca Music Store

111 S. State St.

Waseca Area Caregiver Services

113 2nd St. NW

Advent 2020

We are gearing up for Advent! It will look a little different this year due to COVID-19 restrictions, but it will still be wonderful. One of the things we need to contend with is the number of people in the sanctuary at the same time. So, if you are one of the many people looking forward to decorating the sanctuary for Advent/Christmas, I am asking that you add your name to the list outside the sanctuary door. If we have as many as last year we may need to work in shifts. You can also call the office to have your name added to the list. We traditionally decorate the Friday/Saturday after Thanksgiving.

What will Christmas Eve look like? We are working hard to ensure Christmas Eve service will be the same awe-inspiring worship you are used to. We have not finalized the details, so stay tuned for more information.

One of the most meaningful services I had led during the Advent season is a Blue Christmas service. This service is traditionally held on or around the winter solstice, in December which is the longest night of the year. It is designed for those of us who are suffering from a loss and that loss makes the holiday season hard for us. We might suffer from the loss of a loved one, the loss of a job, financial worries, sickness, or a host of other things. This year, COVID has certainly taken much from us and as we celebrate this year it is especially important to have space to recognize the things we have lost. I intend to offer a Blue Christmas Service for you and your family/friends this year.

The service is about a half hour long and is filled with time to contemplate, beautiful music and a word of comfort. We have not set a date for this but will do so very soon.

Blessings, Pastor Carolyn



Elizabeth Circle October Meeting Minutes

Minutes of Elizabeth Circle Meeting. Weds. Oct. 21, 2020. 2:00 p.m. Faith Church Fellowship Hall

Nine women in attendance: Sandra Voshell, Chair; Karen Ferch, Secretary; Mary Stauffer, Norma Buland, Sherry Scholljegerdes, Pastor Carolyn Doering, Janice Kaupa, Lucille Youngberg, and Andrea Johnson.

Refreshments were provided by Sandra. Karen presented a Devotional, "I Was Wrong, Please Forgive Me", based on readings and Scripture texts on misunderstanding and forgiveness.

Sandy opened the meeting with a request for Sherry to speak on behalf of UMW, subjects relating to publications such as The Fresh Connection, Response magazine, etc. Several articles of interest were reviewed; reminders of the global UMW organization and its worldwide mission efforts. Several items of interest were also highlighted from the UMW Prayer Calendar.

Karen read the minutes from our most recent Circle meeting, which was held on January 2020. Due to restrictions of the COVID19 virus pandemic we have not met since then.

Sandra gave her Treasurer's report including the current state of our finances and also reminded us that 2020 pledges may be fulfilled any time in the next several weeks.

In the absence of Shirley Hansen, our Sunshine Chair, Sandy reported that one of our Honorary Members, Nina Youngberg, is doing well. A thank-you note was received from the family of another Honorary Member, Florence Gutknecht. A monetary gift was given in her memory at the time of her passing.

The decision was made to have a Circle meeting in December to celebrate Christmas. We will gather, keeping all the required protocols of mask-wearing, social distancing, etc., on Weds. Dec. 16 at 2:00 p.m. in the church Fellowship Hall. Mary Jane and Sherry will furnish treats. Please bring a recent or an old photo of a family Christmas celebration you've enjoyed in past years and be prepared to share your memory of it.

Elizabeth Circle will not meet in November; rather, all women are cordially invited to the UMW Unit meeting in the Fellowship Hall on Monday November 16 at 10:00 a.m.

UMW (United Methodist Women) Sale

UMW's sale was held in the parking lot at Faith. Does this make it a 'Parking lot sale'??

The sale was a great success. We did not take in as much as the annual fall bazaar usually does but we have about \$1,150 from the sale for UMW's missions for the year.

Events like this allow us to "Be the Church". There were so many individuals that helped make this the **BIGGEST AND BEST** parking lot sale held at Faith. We used all of our fellowship tables; I believe the number of tables was twenty-three. The tables were full, there were numerous items on the parking lot and lawn and we had grocery carts full of items. And as Pastor Carolyn said it was great to see all the cars in the parking lot. We not only sold a lot of items at the sale but we also were able to donate to Epilepsy Foundation, Bethlehem Inn, Emma Norton and Salvation Army.

The sale was first scheduled to happen on Saturday, September 12th but was cancelled because of bad weather. Food at Faith was scheduled for the 19th so we could not have it that day, we rescheduled it for Saturday, September 26th. Our prayers were answered with good weather on the 26th and it was great that we rescheduled it because we received many more items during those two weeks.

We wish we could thank each and every one who helped out with the sale. Those donating money/items for the sale, those pricing and getting ready for the sale, those working at the sale, those helping with clean up and then those who helped packing up the remaining items that did not sell.

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your continued support of Faith UMW. Thanks to the "donators," the workers, the buyers. We love you all!!

Photos From the Sale





Faith United Methodist Church

"Engage, Equip, and Empower"

801 Fourth Ave. NE

Waseca, MN 56093

Phone: 507-835-3167

Fax: 507-835-5400

E-mail: faithwaseca@gmail.com

www.faithwasecaumc.com

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Waseca, MN
56093

Change Service Requested

Come Worship with Us
We have room.

MONTHLY MEET-UPS:

Elizabeth Circle

UMW Elizabeth Circle will not meet in November

Ruth Circle

UMW Ruth Circle November meeting to be determined.

Conversation, Bible & Friends

Conversation, Bible and Friends will meet on Mondays from 3:00 to 4:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Please wear a mask.

Conversation, Bible and Friends will not meet on November 2 or 16.