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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 - 1:00 pm



Faith Messenger

OCTOBER

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

Volume 2025
Issue 9

From the Pastor's Desk

Sometimes when I read books by C.S. Lewis, I feel like his insights are so sharp that there's no way to escape them. One of those powerful statements is: "We must not let our weakness turn into wickedness." We are all weak. We often fall, and we make mistakes. But if we keep doing this too often, our weakness can slowly become our greatest excuse. We get used to saying, "I'm just weak," or "I'm not good enough," and we start to justify everything. Even though we may have the strength to overcome challenges, we stop trying at all. So we must be careful. If weakness continues for too long, it can become a habit, and that habit can eventually become wickedness.

Jesus told His disciples in John 14:1, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me." Mature believers have soft and sensitive hearts. And when your heart is soft, you feel pain more deeply. The more you feel, the more you can love and the more deeply you can pray. When the Bible says Jesus was troubled, it means He was in pain, thinking about what was going to happen to Him and His disciples. But Jesus prayed with that pain because He loved deeply. His heart was never shaken.

On the other hand, the disciples' hearts were shaken because they were afraid of the future. They were filled with worry. And worry can destroy faith. It clouds our thinking and shakes up our whole life. Jesus knew their hearts. He understood how weak the human heart becomes when facing an uncertain future. That's why He said, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, and trust also in me."

Christians should have soft hearts. We should feel the pain of others, of the church, and of the world. We should cry more and care more. But we must not let our hearts be shaken. Our hearts must be rooted deeply in Christ. So even when we feel everything around us, we remain steady. Let us become people with soft, tender hearts. May we grow to be more like Jesus.

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:

Benedictine Owatonna: Les Wells

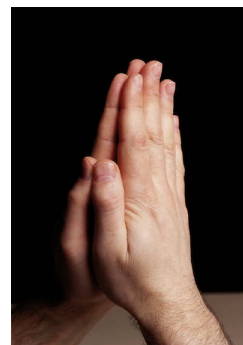
Colony Court: Margaret Dahnert

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, Stuart Kuyper, Darla Dahnert, DJ Choi, Karen Ferch, Lona Williamson, Vada Dahnert, Jon Schultz, Jill Ledbetter, Ed Herbig, the Ukraine, the Middle East, health care workers, first responders, those who battle cancer, chronic illness and pain.



Administrative Assistant Hours

Stacy's hours are typically Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 9:30 am to 1:00 pm. Days or hours are subject to change at times. It is best to call ahead if you need to visit the office. Please note that Stacy will be out of the office October 15 through 17.

Fall Bazaar

Plans are being made for the BIGGEST AND BEST Fall Bazaar which is Saturday, November 1st.

We would welcome any crafts that people might make for the sale. Or if you are a baker, we can always use some great baked goods. Vada will be asking if anyone would like to make cookies for the cookie sale. And if you are doing any early fall cleaning, our slightly used sale can use what you want to get rid of.

Again striving for it to be the Biggest and Best! With you on board we can do it!

Confirmation Orientation

Confirmation orientation is scheduled for Wednesday, October 22 at 7:00pm in the Gathering Room. Both parents and students should attend this meeting.

Mitten Tree

The mitten tree is up. We will collect hats and mittens of all sizes, small to large, for children of all ages through November. The hats and mittens will be delivered to local schools and other organizations to help those in need.

Faith's Blessing Box Update

We continue to see use of the Blessing Box.

We would welcome donations of canned pasta (ravioli, spaghettios, etc.), soup, 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.

Volunteer Opportunities

We're still looking for volunteers to sign up in the areas of Communion Steward, Usher and Liturgist to assist with our worship services. A sign-up sheet is available in the narthex. Fellowship servers are also needed and the sign-up sheet is in the fellowship hall.

It would also be helpful to have a back-up person to record the worship service. If anyone is willing to learn how to use the video camera to record the worship service, please let Roger or Jarod know.

Our worship services and events require volunteers to keep things running smoothly and to share the workload.

Financial Review

On Sunday, October 12 during fellowship time Jarod True will present a financial review of the year to date church finances. Please plan on attending so you can be informed about the church finances and have the opportunity to ask any questions.

A Little Humor

The preacher came to call on me the other day. He said that at my age I should be thinking about the hereafter. I told him I do—all the time. No matter where I am, in the living room, upstairs in the kitchen, or down in the basement, I'm constantly asking myself, "Now, what am I here after?"

Taken from "Laugh and the Whole Church Laughs with You!"

Ruth Circle

Ruth circle met Tuesday, September 9th in the Gathering Room.

Having a fun time was topped off with chocolate cake and ice cream provided by Nancy and Roberta.

After taking care of our normal business we did some planning on our Women's Gathering event which is Saturday, September 27th at 10:00.

Plans were made utilizing the 'Hat Extravaganza' program as the theme for the decorations. We are looking for a great turnout to enjoy the treats and coffee and the presentation on Hats.

Reviewed the plans discussed at the September 3rd Fall Bazaar planning meeting. The Fall Bazaar is Saturday, November 1st.

There is another Bazaar planning meeting on Monday September 15th at 1:30 in the Fellowship Hall. (The newsletter will probably be out after this meeting but if anyone has any input on the bazaar please share it. Always great hearing what people have to say).

Next circle meeting: 1:00 October 14th in the Gathering Room

Program: WHAT'S IN YOUR CUP?

Each lady was given a colorful coffee cup for a visual aid to the program.

This teaching story is an additional way to think about what emerges from us, especially in times of stress or disruption.

Here is the story.

You are holding a cup of coffee when someone comes along and accidentally bumps you and shakes your arm, making you spill coffee everywhere.

Why did you spill the coffee?

Because someone bumped into you, right?

Wrong answer.

You spilled the coffee because coffee was in the cup.

If tea had been in it, you would have spilled tea.

Whatever is inside the cup is what will come out.

Therefore, when life comes along and shakes you, whatever is inside of you will come out.

So each of us has to ask ourselves..... what's in my cup?

When life gets bumpy, what spills over?

Joy, gratefulness, peace, and humility?

Or anger, bitterness, harsh words, and reactions?

We choose what's in our cup!

Continued on next page

Today, let's work towards filling our cups with gratitude, forgiveness, joy, words of affirmation to ourselves and others, kindness, gentleness, and love!

Another driver drove in front of me. It appears that there's a bit too much stress and irritability in my coffee cup right now. Of course, part of me wants to blame the other driver for my reaction. But as the teaching story points out, that's the wrong answer.

The right answer is that I need to be more intentional about filling my cup with patience, forgiveness, peace, and understanding.

How about you? What's your cup full of right now? If you are not sure, perhaps it will become apparent the next time someone cuts you off in traffic, or comes along and bumps you in some other way.

It's BIZARRE — Or Is It?

Bi-zarre...unexpected; fantastic

Ba-zaar...a benefit sale for a church, etc.

(Webster's New World Dictionary)

On more than one occasion, we Faith folks have been known to mutter, 'We are NOT doing this again! We are getting too _____ (fill in the blank) old, tired, feeble...' We just don't have the people-power we need anymore to do this...' So, somehow, we do 'it' anyhow—and 'it' is very successful in every way. Is that not BIZARRE? Think back to last Fall's Bazaar and then the Springtime Sandwich Luncheon.

Roberta (Berts) is one of the main influencers who insists that 'we can do this!' Credit where it's due, she pulls us all together with meetings, 'spreadsheets', and enthusiasm, guiding us in a meeting or two, where plans are developed, put on paper ready to lead any and all workers in the multitude of tasks essential to hosting an event.

We know from years of experience that the Waseca area people really enjoy our meals—not just the delicious food, but the ambiance, the connecting with friends. We know because they tell us—every year. To God be the glory! He is the One who brings His children together—a family reunion, so to speak.

I guess, when all is said and done—when the last plate and fork are washed and put away—(and, yes, every "worker" just wants to get home and rest)—the Blessing shows up. We served our Lord today by welcoming and feeding His children—our brothers and sisters. That's not bizarre at all—that is Blessing.

Where do YOU fit in? None of this 'event-stuff' works without effort. Plain and simple. We need our church FAMILY to pitch in and help in whatever way(s) you can. Please take a good look at the sign-up sheets and add your name to contribute your unique gifts and talents. Cash donations are used to purchase soup ingredients and bread. There is a space in which to volunteer to furnish PIE—Please note: if you no longer bake pies, delicious assortments can be purchased at the local Walmart at very reasonable prices....We request that pies be 10" if possible.

There is an old, time-worn hymn that includes these lines:

"Praise to the LORD, the Almighty, the King of Creation!

ALL that hath life and breath, Come now with praises before Him!

We all do have life and breath—we all are vital to the life and breath that is Faith United Methodist Church—and we all are part of the life and breath of our neighbors. Blessings, friends, blessings. Sound the AMEN.

- Karen Ferch



Annual **Autumn Fest**
Soup & Pie Luncheon

Saturday November 1

Serving 11:00 – 1:00

Free-will **DONATIONS** Accepted

MENU

Chicken Wild Rice Soup

Freshly-Baked Bread

Assorted Pies Coffee

BAZAAR

Baked Goods

Cookie Sale

Gently Used

Faith United Methodist Church
801 4th Avenue NE Waseca



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

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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Postage Paid
Permit 30
Waseca, MN
56093

Change Service Requested

Come Worship with Us
We have room.

MONTHLY MEET-UPS:

Elizabeth Circle

Elizabeth Circle will meet on **Wednesday, October 15** at **2:30** in the Gathering Room. Guests and visitors are always welcome!

Ruth Circle

Ruth Circle will meet on **Tuesday, October 14** at **1:00** in the Gathering Room. Guests and visitors are always welcome!