



# Faith in Action

Faith United Methodist Church  
1530 Oakdale Avenue  
West St. Paul MN 55118  
(651) 457-5686  
[Faiithumc@usfamily.net](mailto:Faiithumc@usfamily.net)

*"Grounded in Christ, open to make a difference - together"*

**February 2016**

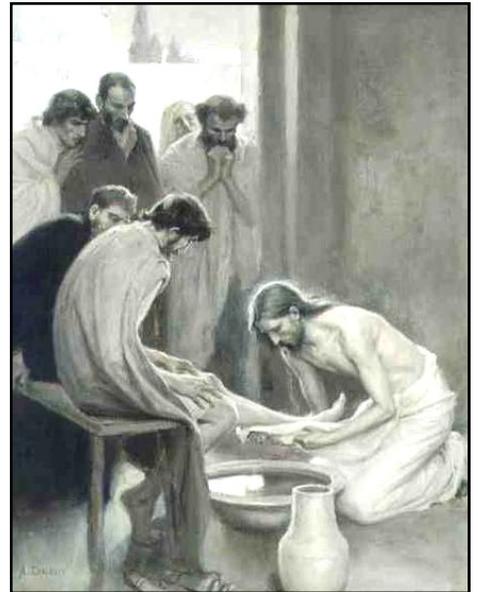
## LENT BEGINS

### Lenten Midweek Supper & Worship during the Wednesdays of Lent Feb. 10 — Mar. 16

Each week our worship series will center on the role of Christ. The theme on Wednesday evening will be further explored on the following Sunday (listed below). There will be music, prayer, Scripture and a few skits, and other activities.

### Sunday Lenten Class 10:50 a.m. Feb. 14 — Mar. 20

Dr. Dana Scopatz will lead the class in thinking about the various ways we think about the crucifixion and the role of Christ.



## HOLY



## WEEK

### MAUNDY THURSDAY March 24 • 7:00 p.m.

We remember the last supper of Jesus and the disciples as we celebrate holy communion in a Tenebrae style of worship with light and darkness.



### GOOD FRIDAY

March 25 • 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.

We will have a 4 hour prayer vigil. You are invited to join in prayer for 30 minute intervals at church or where you are. The church sanctuary will have music and resources available for people to use.



## EASTER SUNDAY

### MARCH 27

**Breakfast • 8:00 a.m.**  
**Worship • 9:30 a.m.**

Easter breakfast will be served in the Fellowship Hall starting at 8:00 a.m. Then we will celebrate the resurrection in the sanctuary with the choir singing, and our worship concluding with the singing of the "Hallelujah Chorus" from Handel's Messiah.

# February Birthdays



2/2 — Colleen Spadaccini	2/11 — Jeffrey Boelter
— Marie Geist	2/14 — Sheryl Watchorn
— Stephen Larsen	— Fred Knutson, Jr.
2/4 — Brian Sielski	2/19 — Ray Bell
— Rebecca Hovey	2/20 — Doris Johnson
2/7 — Roxanne Napier	2/23 — William Bonkowske
2/8 — Alana Sielski	2/24 — Mackenna Emery
2/9 — Paul DeNardo	2/28 — Carie Otto
2/10 — Jill Vanderhoff	— Macenzie Worden

- *If your birthday is missing or listed incorrectly, contact the church office for additions/corrections. Happy Birthday, everyone!* •

## Thank you to and for during January...

- **Greeters:** Taffy Storck, Laurel Venhuizen, Fred & Bonnie Dick, Karen Cohoes, and JoAnn Loutsch.
- **Liturgists:** Sharon Yekaldo, Carol Schuldt, Bill Bonkowske, Isabelle Pippert, and Ann Beardshear.
- **Serving refreshments:** Paul & Pat Williams, Judy Turk & JoAnn Loutsch, Dawn & Gil Kinnunen, and Laurel Venhuizen.
- **Communion Stewards:** Judy Turk & JoAnn Loutsch
- **Record Time!** We took down the Christmas decorations in record time — 2 HOURS (and that included lunch!) Thanks to Dawn & Gil Kinnunen, Steve & Rose Larsen, Bill & Lynn Bonkowske, Sharon Yekaldo, Bruce Opp, Bill Short, John Kemp, Laurel Venhuizen, JoAnn Loutsch, Carol Schuldt, and Judy Turk.
- **Thank You** to Bonnie Dick and Carol Schuldt for helping assemble the January newsletter.
- **Thank you to the following people who have finished their terms of office:**

Chuck Martin — *Board of Trustees*  
Lynn Bonkowske — *Board of Trustees*  
Mike Hovey — *Board of Trustees*  
Carol Schuldt — *Lay Leadership*  
Judy Pfenning — *Lay Leadership*  
Jenifer Stehr — *Children & Youth Task Force*  
Esther Craine — *prayer chain*  
Taffy Storck — *Inviting Team*  
Pete DeNardo — *Inviting Team*  
Judy Turk — *Stewardship*  
Bill Bonkowske — *Balcony Team*  
Bill Short — *Balcony Team*  
Mike Schwendinger — *Balcony Team*  
Gil Kinnunen — *Balcony Team*  
Marsha Spatafore — *Balcony Team*  
Barbara Schroeder — *Lay Member to Annual Conference; Stewardship; Worship Committee; Balcony Team*



**Congregational Care Concerns:**

- ♦ **Bev Nielsen** is in hospice care.
- ♦ **MariAnne Young** continues to have problems with balance.
- ♦ **Doris Johnson** is now in hospice at Brookdale.
- ♦ **Sonja Beguhl** is in rehab.

**Care Centers:**

- ♦ **Bev Nielsen** – *Augustana Emerald Crest of Victoria*
- ♦ **Sonja Beguhl** – *Maplewood Care Center*

**Ongoing Concerns:** *(these will be listed for 3 months and then removed. If you wish for them to remain on the list longer, please contact the church office.)*

- ♦ **Benjamin Brummund**, son of Ron Brummund, Jr., continues to struggle with health problems.

**Concerns beyond our doors:**

- ♦ Those being persecuted for their faith
- ♦ Those separated from family
- ♦ Those living with degenerative conditions
- ♦ Those who are hungry
- ♦ Those who have lost jobs or their homes
- ♦ Those who struggle due to natural disasters
- ♦ Those who grieve
- ♦ Those who are uncertain about the future

**Remembering in Sympathy:**

- ♦ We extend our sympathy to **Matt & Christina Solheid** on the death of Matt's mother.

**The Money Pot**

The Money Pot welcomes your change to help support the offering of the month. During February the money donations will help support **International Justice Mission**, a global organization that protects the poor from violence in the developing world. The organization's global team includes hundreds of lawyers, investigators, social workers, community activists and other professionals at work through 17 field offices. Their work includes rescuing victims (getting them out of the place where they're in danger, bringing criminals to justice (hold salve-owners, traffickers, rapists and criminals accountable in court), restoring survivors (giving them support and tools they need to heal and thrive), and strengthening justice systems (stop violence before it starts by helping strengthen the local justice system). For more information go to the website, [ijm.org](http://ijm.org). You can put money in the money pot in the lobby.



**★ Need a day brightener or thought provoker?**

Dial up *Ideas for Positive Living!* Every Thursday Gil Kinnunen provides an uplifting phone message. So call 651-602-2176 each Thursday for a weekly picker-upper!



**The Prayer Chain is active.** If you have a prayer concern, contact Carol Schuldt at 651-306-0542. Please make sure the pastor also knows of the prayer request, so that she can respond to pastoral care needs. Pastor needs to know about telephone prayer chain requests in order to share the concern on the e-mail prayer chain as well. If you wish to be involved in this ministry by being a part of either the telephone chain or the e-mail chain, please speak to Pastor Gail.

**Hospital Calls:** If you learn someone is hospitalized, please contact the church office or Pastor Gail. With new privacy laws, hospitals no longer call when a member is admitted. We would rather have several calls telling us of someone's hospitalization than not to know. Thank you.

*For your times of devotion this Winter:*

Remember to pick up the **NEWEST issues** of devotional publications The Upper Room (daily readings in regular or large print), or Alive Now. These booklets are found on the table by the parking lot door.

## Easter Lilies



If you would like to purchase a lily to help beautify our sanctuary on Easter morning and then take home with you, the Easter lilies **need to be ordered through the church office by Sunday, February 28.** White Lily plants with are \$9.00 each, and are a 6" single plant with 5-8 white blooms. Please indicate if you have a dedication for your flower.

### Afternoon at the Movies

**Sunday, February 28** we are going to continue Afternoon at the Movies with the movie: "Selma". We begin watching at 4:00 p.m. and then spend some time discussing the movie afterwards. "Selma" is a chronicle of Martin Luther King's campaign to secure equal voting rights via an epic march from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama in 1965. Come and join us.

### New Members

New members will be joining Faith on Sunday, **February 21** during worship. If you are interested in becoming a member of Faith Church, please contact Pastor Gail.

### Craft Group Request

The ladies craft group is in need of some empty plastic tubs with lids — the tubs that deli sliced luncheon meats come in. We have a neat project we'd like to make, and to do so we need a ton of these particular plastic boxes. Every tub will help us! For more info, contact Liz Chun at 651-453-1999. "Many thanks!"

## Facebook Page

Remember to like the Faith Facebook page at: <http://tinyurl.com/FaithUMCmn>

### Annual Book of Reports

Copies of the Book of Reports for 2016 are available on the table between the church office and the pastor's office. Please feel free to pick one up.

### Church Office Hours

Susan will be in the office Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays from 11:30 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

**Pastor Gail** is in the office Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays most weeks. Tuesdays and Fridays are Pastor Gail's regular days off. Please call her at home (612-722-3001) if it is an emergency and you need to reach her.

### 2016 Calendars yet available

It's not too late to get organized with a 2016 wall calendar with gorgeous pictures and Bible verses! If you would like to purchase one (\$7. each), you can leave payment in the office or in the basket by the parking lot door where the calendars are located.

**Men's Breakfast Group** will meet on the Saturdays of **2/13, 2/27, 3/12 and 3/26** at the Fireside Lounge, 1288 S. Robert Street starting at 8:00am. All men are welcome to join us! For more info., please contact Bill Short at 651-552-0736 or [bill.short@ci.white-bear-township.mn.us](mailto:bill.short@ci.white-bear-township.mn.us)

### DARTS Volunteers Sought

Presently DARTS has 3 seniors in need of assistance for their shopping needs, mainly groceries. If you are able to help in this way, please contact Barb Tiggemann, Manager of Volunteer Resources, at 651-234-2254 or email [barb.tiggemann@darts1.org](mailto:barb.tiggemann@darts1.org)



*Have a Happy  
Valentine's Day!*

## **Big Brothers Big Sisters Mentors Sought**

There are currently multiple families in this area that have recently requested a mentor. For nearly 100 years, Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Greater Twin Cities has operated under the belief that inherent in every child is the ability to succeed and thrive. Meaningful, monitored matches are made between adult volunteers (Bigs) and children (Littles) that allow for the development of positive relationships that have a direct and lasting impact on the lives of young people. Simply put? Mentoring works! In 2014, 94% of Littles improved or maintained their scholastic competence, 89% have better attitudes, and 94% feel more accepted by their peers. These encouraging numbers continue to move The Big Brothers Big Sister's mission forward, providing children facing adversity with strong and enduring, professionally supported, 1-to-1 relationships that change their lives for the better, forever. If you are interested in helping a young person in this way, please email Justin at [jfogel@bigstwincities.org](mailto:jfogel@bigstwincities.org) or visit with Pastor Gail.

## **Our Servant-King**

Jesus began his ministry by being hungry,  
*yet he is the Bread of Life.*

Jesus ended his earthly ministry by being thirsty,  
*yet he is the Living Water.*

Jesus was weary,  
*yet he is our rest.*

Jesus paid tribute,  
*yet he is the King.*

Jesus was accused of having a demon,  
*yet he cast out demons.*

Jesus wept,  
*yet he wipes away our tears.*

Jesus was sold for 30 pieces of silver,  
*yet he redeemed the world.*

Jesus was brought as a lamb to the slaughter,  
*yet he is the Good Shepherd.*

Jesus died,  
*yet by his death he destroyed the power of death.*

—Gregory of Nazianzus (4th-century church father)

## **MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

difference /ˈdɪfərəns / [dif-er-uhns]

### **Ministerial Education Fund**



The offering each week empowers ministry within our congregation and in response to the needs of our community. It also helped support the work of ministries beyond the local church, such as the support we give to our 13 United Methodist seminaries through the **Ministerial Education Fund**. Every year, these institutions of higher learning prepare students to lead the church in the context of a rapidly changing world. A portion of the Ministerial Education Fund (25%) remains in annual conferences for the ongoing continuing education of clergy already leading congregations, to help them sharpen skills to lead more effectively. These kinds of cooperative efforts happen all across our connection, thanks to the way the people of The United Methodist Church live and give connectionally. I invite you to give generously as we worship God through sharing our gifts, tithes, and offerings.

*Learn more about the work and impact of the Ministerial Education Fund at:*  
<http://www.umcgiving.org/pastors/resources?category=2754>



# February 2016 Worship Schedule

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## **February 7 — Transfiguration Sunday**— *Sacrament of Holy Communion*

*Scripture Readings: Exodus 34:29-35; Psalm 99; II Corinthians 3:12-4:2; Luke 9:28-43a*

Sermon title: "Seeing the Difference"

Greeter: Taffy Storck

Lay Reader: Angela High-Pippert

Fellowship Time hosts: Paul & Pat Williams

Communion Steward: Lori DeNardo

## **February 10 — Ash Wednesday** — *Imposition of Ashes*



*Scripture Readings: Joel 2:1-2, 12-17; Psalm 51; II Corinthians 5:20-6:10; Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21*

## **February 14 — 1st Sunday in Lent**

*Scripture Readings: Deuteronomy 26:1-11; Psalm 91; I Peter 2:21-25; Luke 4:1-13*

Sermon Title: "Christ in Creation's Healing"

Greeter: Dianne Mens

Lay Reader: Sharon Yekaldo

Fellowship Time host: Karen Cohoes

## **February 21st — 2nd Sunday in Lent**

*Scripture Readings: Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18; Psalm 27; Romans 5:12-19; Luke 13:31-35*

Sermon title: "Christ the New Adam"

Greeters:

Lay Reader: Marsha Spatafore

Fellowship Time host:

## **February 28th — 3rd Sunday in Lent**

*Scripture Readings: Isaiah 55:1-9; Psalm 63; I John 2:1b-2; Luke 13:1-9*

Sermon Title: "Christ our Sacrifice"

Greeter:

Lay Reader: George Brown

Fellowship Time host:

# February 2016 Calendar

Mon., 2/1	10:00 a.m.	Craft Group	Sun., 3/6	9:30 a.m.	Worship
Wed., 2/3	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal		9:45 a.m.	Youth & Children's Sunday School
Sun., 2/7	9:30 a.m.	Worship		10:30 a.m.	Fellowship Time
	9:45 a.m.	Youth & Children's Sunday School		10:50 a.m.	Adult Sunday School
	10:30 a.m.	Fellowship Time	Mon., 3/7	10:00 a.m.	Craft Group
	10:50 a.m.	Adult Sunday School	Wed., 3/9	5:15 p.m.	Supper
Mon., 2/8	10:00 a.m.	Craft Group		6:15 p.m.	Midweek Lenten Worship
Wed., 2/10	5:15 p.m.	Supper		7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
	6:15 p.m.	Ash Wednesday Worship	Sat., 3/12	8:00 a.m.	Men's Breakfast
	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal	Sun., 3/13	9:30 a.m.	Worship
Sat. 2/13	8:00 a.m.	Men's Breakfast		9:45 a.m.	Youth & Children's Sunday School
Sun., 2/14	9:30 a.m.	Worship		10:30 a.m.	Fellowship Time
	9:45 a.m.	Youth & Children's Sunday School		10:50 a.m.	Adult Sunday School
	10:30 a.m.	Fellowship Time	Mon., 3/14	10:00 a.m.	Craft Group
	10:50 a.m.	Adult Sunday School	Wed., 3/16	5:15 p.m.	Supper
Mon., 2/15	10:00 a.m.	Craft Group		6:15 p.m.	Midweek Lenten Worship
Wed., 2/17	5:15 p.m.	Supper		7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
	6:15 p.m.	Midweek Lenten Worship			
	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal			
Sun., 2/21	9:30 a.m.	Worship			
	9:45 a.m.	Youth & Children's Sunday School			
	10:30 a.m.	Fellowship Time			
	10:50 a.m.	Adult Sunday School			
Mon., 2/22	10:00 a.m.	Craft Group			
Wed., 2/24	5:15 p.m.	Supper			
	6:15 p.m.	Midweek Lenten Worship			
	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal			
Thurs., 2/25	11:00 a.m.	Mobil Meals			
Sat., 2/27	8:00 a.m.	Men's Breakfast			
Sun., 2/28	9:30 a.m.	Worship			
	9:45 a.m.	Youth & Children's Sunday School			
	10:30 a.m.	Fellowship Time			
	10:50 a.m.	Adult Sunday School			
	4:00 p.m.	Afternoon at the Movies			
Mon., 2/29	10:00 a.m.	Craft Group			
Wed., 3/2	5:15 p.m.	Supper			
	6:15 p.m.	Midweek Lenten Worship			
	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal			



## Coming Events

**February 10** – Ash Wednesday

**February 28** – Afternoon at the Movies

**March 20** – Palm/Passion Sunday

**March 24** – Maundy Thursday

**March 25** – Good Friday

**March 27** – Easter

## **An early start to spring cleaning**

Although Lent starts early this year, before spring appears in many areas, it's an appropriate time for spring cleaning. Indeed, Lent comes from old German and English words for "spring." So, while it might be too soon to open windows or hang clothes on the line, now is the ideal time for some spiritual spring cleaning.

Lent calls us to examine our beliefs, confess and dispose of old grudges and selfish habits, dust off our Bibles for a new routine of study and prayer, air out our hearts and brighten up our attitudes. "Lent cleaning" lets the Holy Spirit freshen our faith — and it's never too early for that!



FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
1530 Oakdale Ave.  
West St. Paul MN 55118

February 2016

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## Worship Schedule

We invite you to join us this Sunday  
for worship, study and fellowship:

- Worship — 9:30 a.m.
- Youth & Children's Sunday School — 9:45 a.m.
- Fellowship time — 10:30 a.m.
- Adult Sunday School — 10:50 a.m.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

**ASH**  
WEDNESDAY

LENT BEGINS  
ASH WEDNESDAY,  
FEBRUARY 10

**LOVE**

Love is *patient,*  
love is *kind.*  
It does not *envy,*  
it does not *boast,*  
it is not *proud.*

1 Corinthians 13:4

## Refocus for Lent

- Give up complaining — focus on gratitude.
- Give up harsh judgments — think kind thoughts.
- Give up worry — trust God to provide.
- Give up discouragement — be full of hope.
- Give up bitterness — turn to forgiveness.
- Give up hatred — return good for evil.
- Give up anger — be more patient.
- Give up pettiness — become mature.
- Give up jealousy — pray for trust.
- Give up gossiping — control your tongue.
- Give up sin — turn to virtue.
- Give up giving up — persevere.

—Author unknown