



# Faith in Action

Faith United Methodist Church  
1530 Oakdale Avenue  
West St. Paul MN 55118  
651-457-5686  
Faithumc@usfamily.net

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

January 2019



## Project AgGrad

Responding to World Hunger

## MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Project AgGrad is taking the longer view addressing the critical issues of world hunger. The Minnesota Annual Conference initiated Project AgGrad in response to a 1983 Council of Bishops' letter asking for responsible, targeted programs to meet the increasing demands of World Hunger. The program is designed to ensure the students will return to areas of great need and will be in place to provide a multiplying effect as they teach, mentor, conduct research, and nations. Project AgGrad is our vision of how to help.



Project AgGrad seeks to address root causes of world hunger in developing countries by providing highly motivated and trained leaders in production agriculture. The Project AgGrad students are supported for an advanced degree at the University of Minnesota and then they return home to work on food production for the rest of their career. They in turn educate others, conduct research, supervise other graduate students in their countries, mentor farmer groups, work with volunteer and professional groups, and give leadership in thousands of ways. As they touch and train others, the circle of influence goes on and on. One person does make a difference in the world.

The program's six graduates have collectively taught more than 500 graduate students, more than 5,000 undergraduate students, and 25 Ph.D. or master of science students. They have directly influenced more than 2,000 farmers in their home countries. Additionally, they have led or participated in 32 outreach projects, including the development of farm plans, business plans, and land use plans; water quality and sanitation assessments; and farmer training and development.

Emmanuel Adeyemo is the current student. Emmanuel is from Nigeria.  
★ **He will be here at Faith on January 20. He will bring greetings during worship and talk about his experience during the adult education time.**



# January Birthdays

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1/1 — Hailey Worden	Jacob Kranz	1/25 — Jalen Haom
1/3 — Beverly Ysaguirre	1/10 — Rodney Rankin	1/27 — George Brown
Lucy Schwendinger	1/14 — Gregory Schweda	Carter Johnson
1/6 — Jackie Emery	1/14 — Alexander Boelter	1/29 — Phil Phipps
1/8 — JoAnn Loutsch	1/16 — Randy Roberts	1/31 — Scott Spatafore
Austin Worden	1/18 — Barbara Henk	Davie Peine
1/9 — Andrew Lukas	Alexander Sielski	

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

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

- **Greeters:** Taffy Storck, Judy Pfenning, and other volunteers
- **Liturgists:** Dana Scopatz, John Kemp, George Brown, and Judy Pfenning
- **Serving refreshments:** Dan Miller, Dawn Kinnunen, and Fred & Bonnie Dick
- **Communion Stewards:** Collette Peterson & Brynn Ford
- IT TAKES A VILLAGE to put on the Basket & Book Sale! On behalf of JoAnn Loutsch, Lynn Bonkowske and Judy Pfenning, **thank you to everyone** who helped, everyone who donated items for the baskets and books, everyone who let us put signs in their yards. An honorable mention to the team who carried the baskets up to the fellowship hall and displayed them on the tables ... everything looked fabulous: Nancy Rankin, Gloria Gurtin, Roxanne & Greg Napier, Collette Peterson, and Dawn Kinnunen. Also, thank you to Dan Miller for serving the delicious turkey supreme lunch, and Bill Short for delivering the electric fireplace, and Pastor Gail for delivering the outdoor nativity scene to the people who didn't have vehicles big enough. We are just thrilled ... we made \$2,076 on the day of the sale. — *Judy Turk (And thank you, too, Judy Turk, for your hours of faithful service!)*
- **THANK YOU!** I want to thank everybody who helped with Breakfast with Santa this year! It was a great success! Thanks also to everyone who took part in adopting the families for Christmas. It was a little different this year because we didn't 'adopt' seniors, but we will again next year. Additional thanks to people who has been bringing items for the food shelf (food, clothing, cleaning supplies). All your donations of time and items are appreciated — *Karen Cohoes*
- **Thank you** to Karen Cohoes for coordinating Breakfast with Santa and the Neighbors Gift Exchange
- **Thank you** to our Advent & Christmas Candle Lighters: Judy Turk, Pat & Paul Williams, Jazlynn, Johnny, Desarae, Diana and Johnny Gallegos, Gil Kinnunen, Dan Miller, Dawn Kinnunen, and Bill Bonkowske
- **"Thank you** for your kind and gracious gifts for Christmas. They have all been put to good use. Thanks." — *Pastor Gail*
- **Thank you** to those who helped with Christmas Eve worship: Kim Van Sicen, George Brown, Paul and Pat Williams, Dawn & Gil Kinnunen, Dan Miller, Tim, Angela, Caroline and Isabelle Pippert
- **Thank you** to Pat Williams, Gil Kinnunen, Dawn Kinnunen, Judy Turk and JoAnn Loutsch for assembling the December newsletter.
- **"Thank you** to everyone for the cards, thoughts, caring and attendance at my party. Being 90 is pretty good!" — *Laurel Venhuizen*

**Congregational Care Concerns:**

- ♦ **Judy Pfenning** fell and hurt herself
- ♦ **Bill Short** retired on November 30
- ♦ **Vera Young** was hospitalized after a fall

**Care Centers:**

- ♦ **Colleen Spadaccini** – *White Pine, Mendota Heights*
- ♦ **Jerry Lach** – *White Pine, Inver Grove Heights*

**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

**December Mission Well**

**The Mission Well** welcomes your change! If you have loose change, take it off your hands on Sunday or any time during the week and help support the offering of the month. Mission Well donations during January support **Project AgGrad**. This program educates people in agriculture so they can make a difference in feeding people in other parts of the world.



**“Thank You”**



... We were very pleased with the Wednesday, December 12, 2018 blood drive...and the willingness of the donors to share this life saving gift. The efforts of Faith Church have always been greatly appreciated, and your support of the community blood program will go a long way toward replenishing blood supplies and ultimately saving lives. You will be interested to know that in addition, 12 donors registered, zero donors were deferred, and 11 units were collected! We also registered 2 first-time donors! Again, thank you for your contribution and ongoing support of this important community program. I look forward to working with you again on an upcoming blood drive. — Dawn Danylczenko, American Red Cross

**Wednesday 6:16 Prayer**

Holy God, in these days help us to love you, to see each other, and to hear where you are calling us. In the name of Christ who shows us the way. Let it be so. Amen.



**The Prayer Chain is active.** If you have a prayer concern, please contact the church office. If unable to reach Susan or Pastor Gail in the church office, please contact Sharon Yekaldo at 651-455-4770; if she is not available contact Carol Schuldt, 651-306-0542. Please make sure the pastor knows so she can respond to pastoral care needs, and knows what is going out over the telephone prayer chain so it can be sent to the e-mail prayer chain as well. If you wish to be involved in this ministry by being either on 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:** Remember to pick up the **NEWEST issue** of the devotional *The Upper Room* (daily readings in regular or large print). This booklet is found on the table by the parking lot door.

## Newsletter

With this issue of the newsletter, we are sending it out by US postal mail and e-mail. If you wanted a paper copy but receive an electronic copy, please contact the church office so we get you on the list. If you receive an emailed newsletter AND a paper copy, please be patient as we perfect the email list. The newsletters are also accessible through the church website at [www.faithumcmn.com](http://www.faithumcmn.com)

*Thank You*, “Faith Friends”, for your Christmas wishes and monetary gift. Your kindheartedness is very appreciated! — *Susan Filter*

## Brand New

I am the new year. I am an unspoiled page in your book of time.

I am your next chance at the art of living. I am your opportunity to practice what you have learned about life during the last 12 months.

All you sought and didn't find is hidden in me, waiting for you to search it but with more determination. All the good you tried for and didn't achieve is mine to grant when you have fewer conflicting desires.

All you dreamed but didn't dare to do, all you hoped but did not will, all the faith you claimed but did not have – these slumber lightly, waiting to be awakened by the touch of a strong purpose.

I am your opportunity to renew your allegiance to him who said, “See, I am making all things new” (Revelation 21:5, NRSV).

—*Author unknown*

## Happy New Year

## COMING EVENTS

**January 12** – Taking down the Christmas decorations

**January 27** – Church Conference

**February 9** – Be the Tool/River Bend Chili Cook-Off

**March 6** – Ash Wednesday

### Extra Help Rolling Into, Rolling Out of Food Shelf

Do you have a large rolling suitcase sitting around picking up dust? Why not donate it to help a family in need. With each family receiving a week's supply of food, it can sometimes be difficult to transport all the food if a client is walking or taking the bus. Help out today by donating your old large rolling suitcase to the Neighbors, Inc. food shelf.



### Un-decorating from Christmas

**Saturday, January 12** we will take down the decorations from the holiday season. We will begin at 1:00 and continue through the afternoon until things are put away. If you can help or if you have questions, contact Judy Turk, 651-343-8027 or [judyturk123@gmail.com](mailto:judyturk123@gmail.com)



### 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 612-703-1296 if it is an emergency and you need to reach her.

## Gifts of IRA Assets

Good news for taxpayers over the age of 70½. Congress has voted to make permanent the exclusion from income of up to \$100,000 per person, per year, for Individual Retirement Account (IRA) distributions which are given directly to charities. This money can be given to the church and you will receive a donation credit on your giving. For more information, contact your financial planner or Pastor Gail.

## Capital Improvements Reserve Fund

In 2015 Faith Church approved the Faith Trust. The trust contains 3 separate funds. One of those funds is the Capital Improvement Reserve. This money was set aside to help care for items on the property that need to be fixed, repaired or replaced. The fund began with \$60,000 from the estate of Maryanne Maurer. We used money from the fund to replace the windows in the parsonage; to pay for half of the cost of the floor replacement in the Fellowship Hall and the majority of the replacement of the sound system. In 2019 we will need to replace one of the fans in the sanctuary and other improvements around the building. The Capital Improvement Reserve can receive gifts at any time. If you would like to give a gift to the reserve, please mark it as such and turn it in either in the offering or in the office.

## Community Boards

Help us expand our advertising for church events! Keep your eyes open for community boards, and tell Judy Turk. She is looking for places we can hang posters for events here at church.

## Can you help— or do you want or know someone who would like COMPUTER DESKS?

We want to remove the computer desks that are in the end rooms of the education wing. We want to use the room for other things. Please let Judy Turk know if you can help: phone 651-343-8027 or email [judyturk123@gmail.com](mailto:judyturk123@gmail.com).

## “Paul’s Missionary Journeys” Trip in 2019

Join Bishop Bruce and Char Ough on eight nights aboard the Azamara Journey in **October of 2019** for a Highlights of Paul's Missionary Journeys trip. The dates are Friday, October 18, 2019 to Sunday, October 27, 2019. **A copy of the trip brochure** is hanging on the bulletin board by the church office. For additional information or questions, please contact Rev. Michael Miller at: [prairieflowers@q.com](mailto:prairieflowers@q.com) or 952-975-1704.

## Time of Service – Spring Needs

This spring we will again be making kits at our time of service. The following items are what we will be needing for the kits:

- receiving blankets • 8 oz. soap • shampoo
- hand towels • wash cloths • deodorant
- multi notebooks • scissors – 8" eraser for white board

Next fall we will again be making Christmas boxes for Spirit Lake so keep your eyes open for items that might go in the boxes (handheld games, drawing items, books, jewelry, small toys). You can bring them to church and we will store them.

**Garage Sale Heads Up:** Are you decorating for the holidays? While doing so, you may find you have things in your home you don't want or need any longer. **Keep in mind that we are planning to have a garage sale next summer here at Faith.**

Will you please start to save items for the sale? You can bring items to the church on June 1 and after. If you need to bring them sooner, ask Roxanne Napier or Judy Turk where to store them in the church.

## ★ 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!

# January 2019 Calendar

Tues., 1/1/19	Office Closed	Wed. 1/30	6:16 p.m.	Community Prayer
Wed., 1/2	6:00 p.m. Board of Trustees		7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
	6:16 p.m. Community Prayer	Sun. 2/3	9:30 a.m.	Worship
	7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal		9:45 a.m.	Youth & Children's Sunday School
Sun., 1/6	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., 2/4	9:00 a.m.	Craft Group
	10:50 a.m. Adult Sunday School		12 noon	Bible Overview
Mon., 1/7	9:00 a.m. Craft Group	Wed. 2/6	6:16 p.m.	Community Prayer
	12 noon Bible Overview		7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
	6:30 p.m. Welcome Team	Sat., 2/9	8:00 a.m.	Men's Breakfast
Wed., 1/10	6:16 p.m. Community Prayer	Sun., 2/10	9:30 a.m.	Worship
	7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal		9:45 a.m.	Youth & Children's Sunday School
Sat., 1/12	8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast		10:30 a.m.	Fellowship Time
	1:00 p.m. Take Down the Christmas Decorations		10:50 a.m.	Adult Sunday School
Sun., 1/13	9:30 a.m. Worship	Mon., 2/11	9:00 a.m.	Craft Group
	9:45 a.m. Youth & Children's Sunday School			
	10:50 a.m. Adult Sunday School			
Mon., 1/14	9:00 a.m. Craft Group			
Wed. 1/16	6:16 p.m. Community Prayer			
	7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal			
Sun., 1/20	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., 1/21	9:00 a.m. Craft Group			
	12 noon Bible Study			
Wed. 1/23	7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal			
	7:00 p.m. Confirmation			
Thurs., 1/24	10:00 a.m. Mobile Meals			
Sat. 1/26	8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast			
Sun., 1/27	9:30 a.m. Worship			
	9:45 a.m. Youth & Children's Sunday School			
	10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time			
	10:50 a.m. Annual Church Conference			
Mon., 1/28	9:00 a.m. Craft Group			



## Offering Envelopes



**Offering Envelopes** are available in the church lobby. If you do not find envelopes for yourself, please contact Bill Short.

## Men's Breakfast

The Men's Breakfast Group will meet on the Saturdays of **1/12, 1/26, 2/9, and 2/23** at the Fireside Lounge, 1288 South Robert Street starting at 8:00am. All men are invited to join us! For more info, please contact Bill Short at [bill.short26@gmail.com](mailto:bill.short26@gmail.com) or 651-552-0736.

## Facebook Page

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

# January 2019 Worship Schedule

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## **January 6 — Epiphany Sunday** — *Sacrament of Holy Communion*

*Scripture Readings: Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 72; Ephesians 3:1-12; Matthew 2:1-12*

Sermon title: "Secrets"

Greeter: Taffy Storck

Lay Reader: Sharon Yekaldo

Fellowship Time host: Dan Miller

Communion Steward: Sharon Yekaldo

## **January 13 — Baptism of Our Lord Sunday**

*Scripture Readings: Isaiah 43:1-7; Psalm 29; Acts 8:14-17; Luke 3:15-17, 21-22*

*Renewal of our Baptismal Vows*

Sermon title: "You are Mine"

Greeter:

Lay Reader: Bruce Opp

Fellowship Time Host: Dan Miller

## **January 20 — 2nd Sunday after the Epiphany**

*Scripture Readings: Isaiah 62:1-5; Psalm 36; I Corinthians 12:1-11; Luke 15*

Sermon title: "Being Lost"

Greeter:

Lay Reader: Randy Davis

Fellowship Time host:

## **January 27 — 3rd Sunday after the Epiphany**

*Scripture Readings: Nehemiah 8:1-3,5-6,8-10; Psalm 19; I Corinthians 12:12-31a; Luke 10:25-37*

Sermon title: "Who do we Care About?"

Greeter:

Lay Reader: Angela High-Pippert

Fellowship Time host:

★ **Church Conference: Sunday, January 27** after worship we will be holding our annual church conference. We will be receiving the book of reports, setting the budget for 2019 and reflecting on the year past and looking forward to the year to come.

*Any outstanding reports for the book of reports are due at this time. Thank you.*



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## Sunday 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.



*New year – new blessings! New ways to thank God!*

### 2019 Mobile Meals Schedule for Faith UMC (Thursdays)



- |               |               |
|---------------|---------------|
| ♦ January 24  | ♦ July 11     |
| ♦ February 21 | ♦ August 8    |
| ♦ March 21    | ♦ September 5 |
| ♦ April 18    | ♦ October 3   |
| ♦ May 16      | ♦ October 31  |
| ♦ June 13     | ♦ December 26 |

### Epiphany Worship at Old Salem Shrine

The Annual Epiphany Service at the Old Salem Shrine is back by popular demand! A Candlelight Service will be held on January 6, 2019 at 4:30 P.M. Rev. Laurie Boche, former pastor with Hope United Methodist Church in Duluth, MN will lead the worship. Rev. David Brown, former pastor from Mount Bethel United Methodist Church will bring the message. Come and experience an old-fashioned service as it was in the 1800's including candles, lanterns, wood stove, while singing Christmas carols by the antique pump organ. Old Salem Kirche was the first evangelical church in the State of Minnesota organized in 1857 and the birthplace for several congregations throughout our region. Let this service become a tradition for you and your family. Old Salem is located on Upper 55<sup>th</sup> St. (formerly Salem Church Road) between Robert St. and Babcock Trail in Inver Grove Heights. For more information contact Jill Lewis at [651-455-9404](tel:651-455-9404).